Princess Ai
Paper Dolls

# Princess Ai™

Evolution 3

By Misaho Kujiradou, Courtney Love & D.J. Milky

TOKYOPOP

Princess
TM

*Princess Ai Vol. 3 Evolution*
Created by - Courtney Love & D.J. Milky
Illustrated by - Misaho Kujiradou
Written by - Misaho Kujiradou & D.J. Milky

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Translation Assistance - Yuki N. Johnson
Copy Editors - Peter Ahlstrom and Hope Donovan
Retouch and Lettering - Jose Macasocol, Jr.
Cover Design - Al-Insan Lashley
Additional Design - Jose Macasocol, Jr. and Matt Alford
Project Coordinator - Kimiko Fujikawa
Production Manager, Japan - Junichiro Sato

Editor, Japan - Akane Ishii for Shinshokan
Editor - Rob Tokar
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Managing Editor - Lindsey Johnston
Editorial Director - Jeremy Ross
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Publisher and E.I.C. - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
C.E.O. & Chief Creative Officer- Stuart Levy

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E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

A TOKYOPOP® Manga

TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

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# Princess Ai™

## VOLUME 3: EVOLUTION


CREATED BY

COURTNEY LOVE & D.J. MILKY

ILLUSTRATED BY

MISAHO KUJIRADOU

WRITTEN BY

MISAHO KUJIRADOU & D.J. MILKY



TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

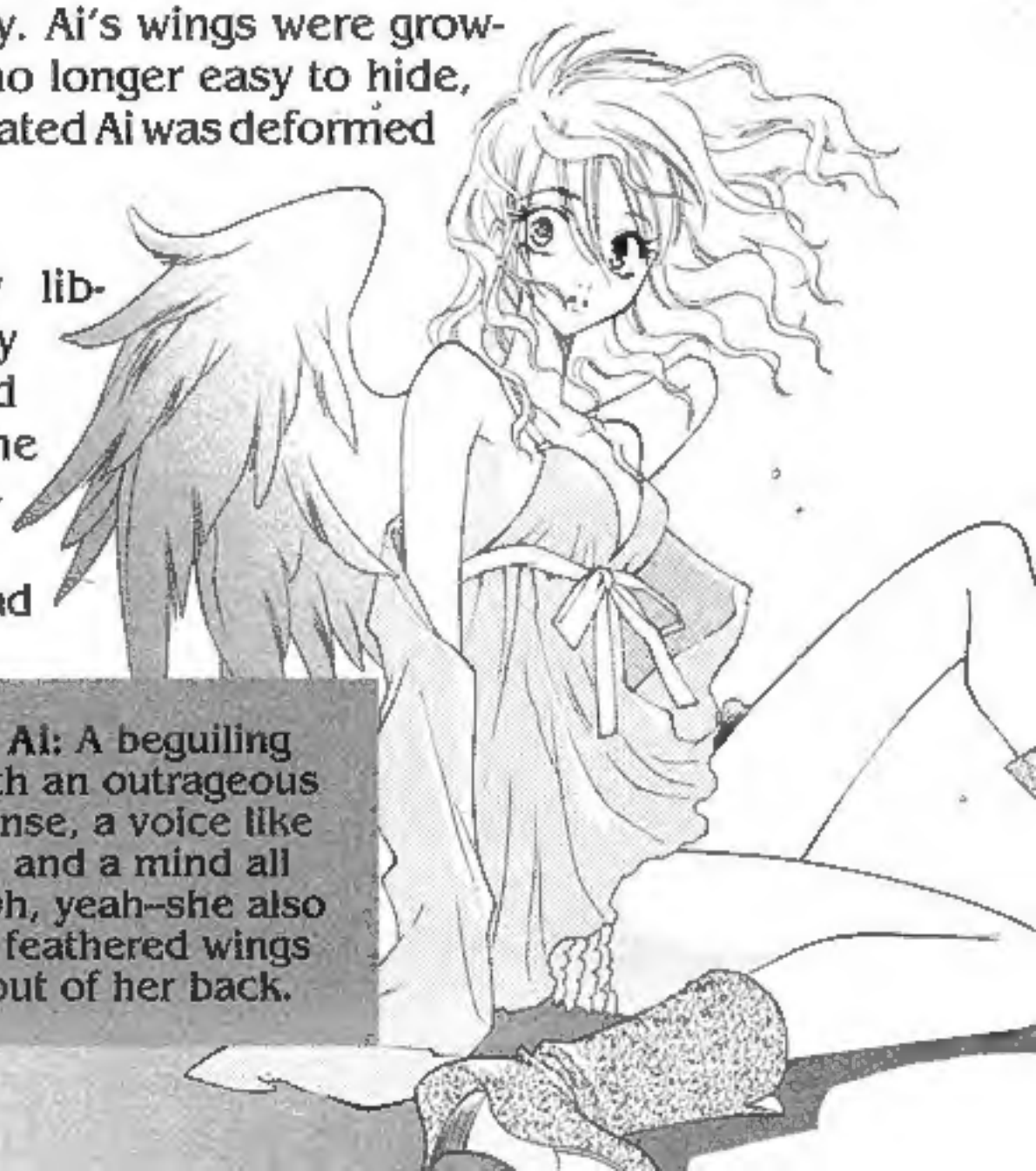
# Princess Ai™

## Story Thus Far

Life in H.T.A.'s high-security compound has managed to keep Ai safe from the Ai-Land assassin known as Tess, but it has also made the young displaced princess feel trapped and irritable. Though driven to rediscover her lost memories, Ai upheld her part of the deal with H.T.A. and created many new songs and videos for the recording label. While making music, Ai started discovering a kind of magic in her performance, and when she experienced this power, it caused her wings to grow spontaneously.

As Ai complained about her "captivity" and Ai's manager Yoshi complained about her, Hayabusa plotted to incite scandals that would increase Ai's fan awareness...and her notoriety. Ai's wings were growing so much that they were no longer easy to hide, creating headlines that speculated Ai was deformed or even "part beast."

In the Shinjuku University library, a depressed and lonely Kent discovered a book called "Human Historical Myths: The Era of the First Ai-Landic Revolution." In it, Kent saw images of caged angels and read



**Princess Ai:** A beguiling woman with an outrageous fashion sense, a voice like an angel, and a mind all her own. Oh, yeah–she also has large, feathered wings growing out of her back.

about a Human king named Sei who quelled a revolt by "the devious Dougen beasts" of Ai-Land. While poring through it, Kent was interrupted by Fa'an. Fa'an inspired Kent to re-enter Ai's life, give her the book, and make Ai's quest his own.

Getting close to Ai was difficult, but not impossible. Realizing that Kent would not be happy without Ai, Hikaru distracted the security guard at H.T.A.'s gate long enough for Kent to slip by. Not knowing exactly where to find Ai, Kent used his guitar to serenade the entire condo complex in order to get Ai's attention. Before Al could reach Kent, the young man was chased away by security. When she reached the ground level, Ai found that Kent had dropped the book he brought for her while making his escape.

That night, Ai fell asleep with the book on her pillow, and her dreams were filled with visions of Ai-Land and her past. She saw that many fantastic creatures lived in Ai-Land, but they were oppressed and enslaved by the Humans. Angels had a particularly hard existence as they were kept locked in cages and slowly bled. The angels' blood was used to create Tenketsu, a highly energetic substance that fuels Ai-Land. The scenes of torture were replaced by memories of Nora leading the Second Revolution and sending Ai to Earth in order to protect her. Ai recalled that her difficult parting with

**Kent:** A sweet, guitar-playing college librarian who offered Ai his home and his heart to keep her safe.

**Hikaru:** Kent's jealous and possessive gay roommate, Hikaru hated Princess Ai on sight. However, once he saw how deeply Kent cared for Ai, Hikaru helped bring them closer together.

Nora made her vow to never again let go of the one she loved.

Waking from the terrible dream, Ai discovered that her heart-shaped pendant could be opened. Inside, there were images of the two most important men in Ai's life: King Sei and Nora. As Ai stared at the pictures, Nora's face was replaced by Kent's.

Needing solitude to think, Ai retreated to the roof of her building only to find a suicidal young woman about to jump. As the two spoke, Ai unknowingly began to sing to the other woman and Ai's song inspired the suicidal girl to continue living. When the girl expressed her gratitude, Ai discovered that her wings had spontaneously grown again and started changing color from white to red. This encounter led Ai to believe that her song might just have a power she could use to help her homeland...if she could figure out more about it.

In preparation for her first live television appearance, Ai was on a radio show that took calls from fans. During the show, Ai received a call from Kent, who asked for advice about re-entering his girlfriend's life. Not revealing that she knew him, Ai informed him that he should follow his heart... and that she had recently come to believe that two people together could accomplish things that neither one could alone.

**Fa'an:** An enigmatic street musician who helped Ai discover her flair for singing and helped Kent decide to re-enter Ai's life. He has a knack for appearing and disappearing at just the right time.

**Nora:** A leader of the revolutionaries in Ai Land, this Angel wants equality--not superiority--over Humans...but not everyone shares his views.

**Kaz:** Nora's radical cousin who believes that the Human royal family must be conquered in order to achieve victory. Much to Nora's dismay, Kaz dispatched Tess and Meggi to capture Ai.

**Tess:** One of the three Furies of Ai-Land, Tess was sent to Earth to drag Ai back home. After hunting and observing Ai, Tess underwent a radical change of heart and is now Ai's protector.

That night, at the TV studio, Tess attacked Ai during the performance. Ai told her band to keep playing and used her song to try to get through to Tess. When Tess knocked Ai into the audience, the crowd caught the young singer and shouted words of encouragement and support. As they did so, Ai's wings spontaneously grew larger and redder again, much to Tess' astonishment. Tess' confusion was understandable–amongst the Dougen, angel wings meant nobility, but none of the angels of Ai-Land had red wings like Ai's.

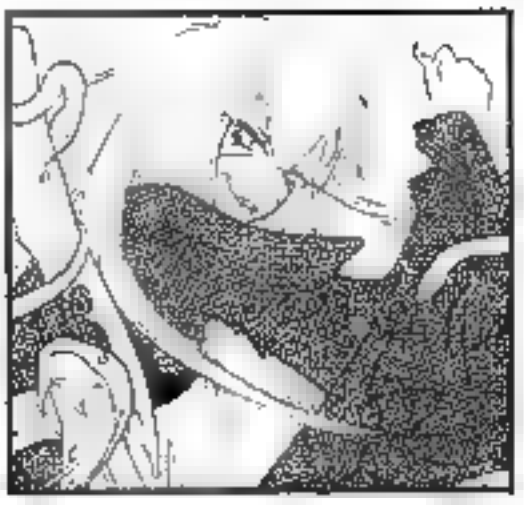
Though Ai couldn't explain her wings to Tess, she did manage to convince the Furie that she truly wanted to help the Dougen and make things right in Ai-Land. Tess agreed to trust Ai, though Takeshi and the TV station's security found it much more difficult to trust Tess. As Ai continued her show, they rushed the stage in an attempt to capture Tess. Almost casually, the Furie smashed one of the set's supports, bringing scaffolding, columns and tapestries crashing down around all of them.

**Takeshi:** Tough, tattooed and tawdry, he's a VIP at the nightclub Club Cupid who just happens to work for H.T.A., the hottest talent agency in Japan.

In the midst of the chaos, Kent rushed out of the audience and pulled Ai out of harm's way. Reunited at last, Ai gave Kent her heart-shaped locket and asked him to wear it so her heart would always be next to his.

Back in Ai-Land, the snake-winged Furie named Meggi sensed her sister Tess' change of heart and

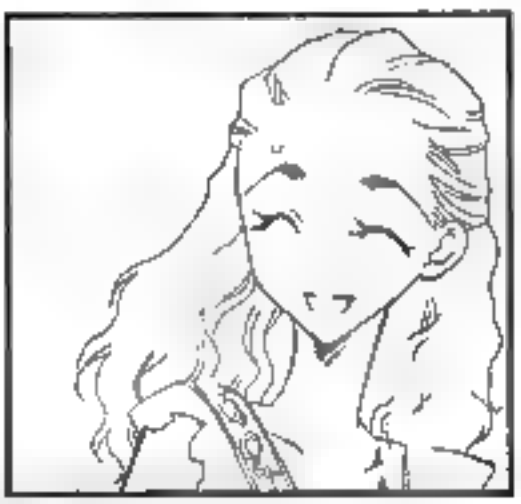
**Yoshi:** Ai's personal assistant, he is sometimes mistaken for a very tall woman.



**Meggi:** Tess' sister, this snake-winged Furie has been dispatched to Earth to fulfill Tess' mission.

**Hayabusa:** Takeshi's boss, the powerful president of H.T.A., who's allegedly connected with the Yakuza (the Japanese mob). Hayabusa dresses like a general and rules his company like a despot.

**Hiro:** Ai's manager. Stoic and by-the-book, he has a hard time dealing with Ai's unpredictability



**Jen:** The one singer at Club Cupid who was nice to Ai, Jen has since become Ai's best friend.

reported it to Kaz. In order to have any hope of sealing away the Human royal family, Kaz dispatched Meggi to capture Ai.

Watching a recording of Ai's chaotic television appearance, Hayabusa reveled in the leap of notoriety it brought his most controversial star. However, Hayabusa was disturbed by Ai's rebellious refusals to cooperate and her threats to break her contract. Revealing what appeared to be a long-standing secret plan, Hayabusa ordered Takeshi to record more of Ai's songs, take her on a stadium tour, shoot every moment of her on video... and then take her out.

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# Princess Ai

CHAPTER

# 11

# プリンセスアイ物語

第11話

OH, MY GOD! AI'S CONCERT WAS SOOO AMAZING!

I KNOW--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT WASN'T JUST A CONCERT-- IT WAS LIKE A FULL-ON SHOW!

PRINCESS AI'S SO ADORABLE.

I THINK I'M TURNING INTO HER GROUPIE!

Y'KNOW, THE THING ABOUT PRINCESS AI IS HOW MYSTERIOUS SHE IS.

ALMOST LIKE SHE'S FROM ANOTHER WORLD...

YEAH, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND ANY BACKGROUND INFO ABOUT HER ON THE WEB I THINK THAT'S WHAT MAKES HER COOL, THOUGH.

C.D.K.TV

MY SISTER TAPED THE SHOW ON TV--I CAN'T WAIT TO WATCH IT AT HOME! ♡

I CAN'T WAIT FOR HER NEXT CONCERT!

Yoshi & Hiro were busy...

Princess...!!

OH, I WISH I COULD FIND AI-- I REALLY HOPE SHE'S OKAY...

SURE ENOUGH, SHE'S NOT HERE IN THE LOBBY..

I CAN'T BELIEVE KENT JUST RAN OFF...

OWW!

EVEN YOSHI AND HIRO COULDN'T FIND HER.

SHE WASN'T IN HER DRESSING ROOM

I WAS TOO BUSY LOOKING FOR

KENT AI

TO NOTICE YOU.

HUH?

THAT HURT...

I'M SORRY...

DOES YOUR FRIEND KENT KNOW AI?

AI ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT A GUY NAMED KENT.

OF COURSE.

YOU KNOW AI?!

DID YOU JUST SAY "KENT"?!

I'M HIKARU!

I'M HER FRIEND. MY NAME'S JEN.

SO, HOW DO YOU KNOW AI?

THAT'S SO AWESOME YOU KNOW KENT!

HIKARU, DO YOU HAVE A THING FOR AI?

OOOH... I'M SO JEALOUS!

THEY'RE TOGETHER, AREN'T THEY?

NO, SILLY-- FOR KENT!

HE'S SO PRECIOUS...

...BUT NOW I KNOW THAT KENT'S CHOSEN SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME.

HMM... I GUESS I'D SAY IT'S HER HONESTY.

EVEN WITH ALL THE ATTENTION SHE GETS, AI STAYS TRUE TO HERSELF. I NEVER FIND HER FAKE OR ARROGANT.

...

SHE'S GREAT!

WHY'S THAT?

JEN, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF AI?

BUT EVEN WITH ALL HER STRENGTH, IF AI HAD SOMEONE BY HER SIDE-- SOMEONE SHE COULD PUT HER FULL TRUST IN...

...I REALLY BELIEVE SHE'D BE ABLE TO OVERCOME EVEN THE TREMENDOUS BURDENS SHE HAS ON HER NOW.

SHE MAY BE A BIT DITZY SOMETIMES, BUT I REALLY RESPECT HER. SHE'S NOT AFRAID TO BATTLE HER DEMONS-- OUTER OR INNER.

PRINCESS AI IS PRINCESS DOOM!

AI, THE PRINCESS OF DOOM, IS HERE TO TAKE YOU ON THE PATH OF EVIL WITH HER DEVIL CHANTS!

SOMEONE SHE COULD PUT HER FULL TRUST IN...

DIDN'T YOU SEE THE EVIL SHE PROVOKED ON STAGE? STRAIGHT FROM THE BOWELS OF HELL!

Stop the evil noise!

MUSIC FROM HELL!!

HER WORDS ARE THOSE OF INSANITY!!

HIKARU, NEVER MIND THEM-- NO ONE CARES...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? HIKARU?!

NOT THOSE WEIRDOES AGAIN...

AI THE SHE-DEVIL HAS COME TO TAKE AWAY YOUR LIFE!

YOU MUST NOT LET THE TEMPTATIONS OF DARKNESS COLOR YOUR WEAK AND WILLING SOULS!

I'M TIRED OF YOU INSULTING MY FRIEND, YOU LAME-ASS SUNGLASS-WEARING, KU KLUX KLAN-HOODED, IGNORANT FREAKS!!

FORGET AI TAKING AWAY MY LIFE-- WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND YOURS?!

AS SOON AS I SAW KENT...

...I KNEW THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO TO WIN HIM OVER. HE WAS HERS.

...RUN FROM HIS SEAT TO GO AND SAVE HER...

IT'S THAT KID AGAIN!

How dare you insult us!

LET'S GO.

HIKARU...

BUT, YOU KNOW WHAT? THAT'S OKAY--

HIKARU...

KENT DIDN'T CHOOSE ME-- HE CHOSE AI...

I SAW IT IN HIS EYES-- HE'S THE SOMEONE SHE CAN PUT HER FULL TRUST IN.

--AI'S MUSIC, HER SONGS, HER SPIRIT-- THEY'RE CONTAGIOUS.

EVEN THOUGH I STILL LOVE KENT--

--I'M HAPPY FOR HIM.

HIKARU, YOU'RE SO KIND.

ME? I AM?

ONE DAY, YOU'LL BE REWARDED FOR YOUR KINDNESS. ♡

I DOUBT IT...

YOU WILL!

Anyway, I still wish I knew where those two went.

Me, too.

THANKS FOR HELPING US ESCAPE, TESS.

COME BACK AND GET US LATER.

AI, DON'T YOU THINK THE OTHERS ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU?

AFTER BEING LOCKED UP LIKE A SLAVE FOR WEEKS, I THINK I DESERVE AT LEAST A SMALL TASTE OF FREEDOM.

PEOPLE SHOULD NEVER JUDGE OTHERS.

YOU AMAZE ME...

I NEVER IMAGINED SHE'D BECOME AN ALLY.

I GUESS SHE WAS JUST DOING WHAT SHE WAS TOLD-- WITHOUT REALLY KNOWING THE TRUTH.

EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU-- YOU'VE TRULY BECOME AN OUTRIGHT ANGEL...

ME...?

THESE WINGS--MY FATHER DESPISED THEM WITH ALL HIS HEART.

HE WOULD THREATEN ME, SAYING THAT IF I EVER TOLD ANYONE OR SHOWED ANYONE MY WINGS, HE WOULD LOCK ME UP FOREVER.

SOUNDS LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO PROTECT YOU FROM SOMETHING BAD HAPPENING.

MAYBE-- BUT HE SCARED ME.

SO, YOUR MEMORY'S BACK?

SOME OF IT.

MY BEST FRIEND WAS LISSA, MY TUTOR.

BUT I WAS TOO SCARED TO EVEN TELL LISSA ABOUT MY WINGS..

SOME-TIMES WE'D SNEAK OUT OF THE CASTLE SO I COULD HANG OUT WITH THE "NORMAL" KIDS.

MY MOTHER-- QUEEN LILITH-- DIED GIVING BIRTH TO ME.

MY FATHER-- KING SEI...

HE WAS SO STRICT...

I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY I HAD THESE WINGS...

I THOUGHT MAYBE I WAS A FREAK OF NATURE.

EVERY TIME I TRIED TO ASK MY FATHER--EITHER ABOUT MY WINGS OR EVEN MY MOTHER--

--HIS FACE WOULD TURN RED AND HE'D GET REALLY PISSED OFF.

BUT...

...WHEN YOU TOLD ME THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL...

...I NEVER FELT THAT FEELING BEFORE--SOMETHING INSIDE ME WOKE UP!

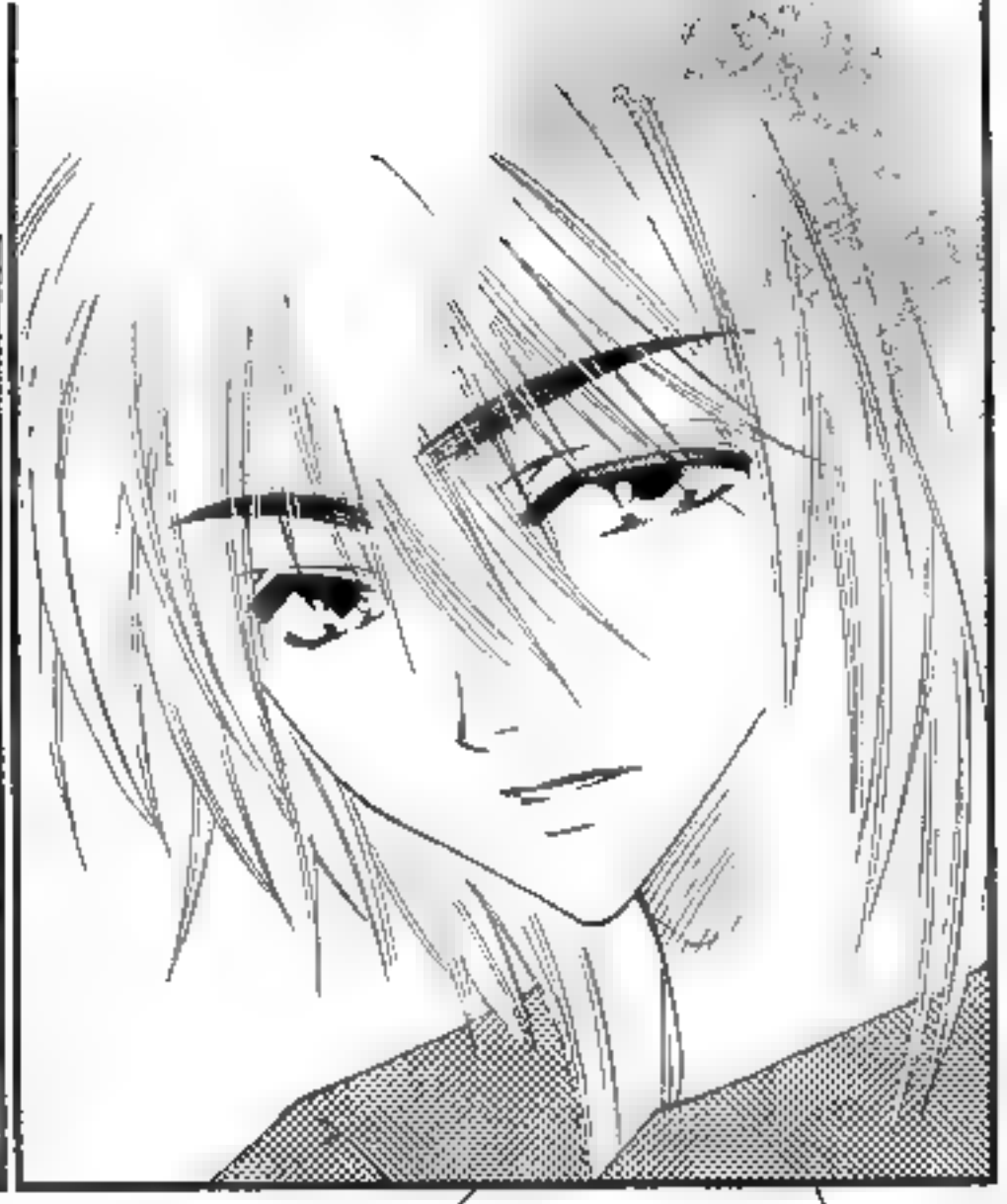
EVEN IF I NEVER DISCOVER WHAT THESE WINGS OF MINE MEAN...

...BECAUSE OF YOU, KENT--I FEEL COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO BE MYSELF.

MY TURN? MAN, MY LIFE'S BEEN PRETTY BORING.

YOUR TURN, KENT.

MY OLD MAN'S FROM AMERICA AND MY MOM'S JAPANESE.



I'M, UM, ALLERGIC TO ONIONS...

UM...

uh...

UH...I LIKE, UM, CHEESEBURGERS AND PLAYING GUITAR...

YEAH.

WOW

SO YOUR MOM AND DAD ARE DIFFERENT?

DIFFERENT KINDS OF HUMANS?

I HAVE TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, AI.

WHEN YOU LEFT ME...

...I WAS KINDA LOST.

Hiya!

THEN, ONE DAY, SOME HIPPIE-LOOKING GUY WITH A GUITAR SHOWED UP IN THE LIBRARY...

NO WAY-- FA'AN?!

WHICH DO YOU LIKE BETTER-- CHEESEBURGERS OR ME?

HUH? I HAVE TO CHOOSE...?

THAT WHAT I CHOOSE TO DO IS WITHIN MY OWN POWER. PRETTY TRIPPY STUFF.

HE TOLD ME NOT TO DOUBT WHAT I FEEL INSIDE.

THAT GUY WAS THE ONE WHO CLUED ME IN.

DON'T ASK ME-- THIS STUFF IS ALL BEYOND ME.

I'M NOT SURE IF I CAN HELP YOU, OR IF I'LL JUST BE IN THE WAY.

BUT...

DO YOU THINK... HE'S WATCHING OVER ME?

I MADE A PROMISE-- BOTH TO YOU AND TO MYSELF--

--NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...

...I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU.

sniffle

I FEEL LIKE I'M SO CLOSE TO FINDING THE TRUTH...

I REALLY FEEL THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE MUSIC INSIDE ME--LIKE I CAN FIND THOSE ANSWERS THERE, INSIDE MY MUSIC.

I...

I WANT TO FIND THE ANSWERS...

YOU BEING HERE WITH ME-- THAT'S ALL I ASK FOR...

WHATEVER YOU NEED FROM ME, AI, JUST ASK.

THAT REMINDS ME...

WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS PENDANT THING YOU GAVE ME EARLIER?

FOR LUCK..

ALWAYS KEEP IT AROUND YOU, CLOSE TO YOUR HEART. I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME IT WILL PROTECT YOU--AND US...

BUT WHAT HAPPENS TO US

...ONCE I FIND THE ANSWERS I'M LOOKING FOR?

SQUEEZE

I THOUGHT I WAS NEVER GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

I WAS SO, SO WORRIED!

WAAGH-- PRINCESS!!

YOU'RE SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN, YOSHI.

I WAS OUT ALL NIGHT...

YOUR WINGS ARE SO BIG NOW...

...YOU COULD FLY AWAY FROM US AT ANY TIME!

YOU THINK?

BETTER NOT DO THAT AGAIN...

DON'T WORRY-- I'M HERE TO SING.

<-glance

SO YOU BROUGHT A NEW FRIEND..

...!

THIS IS TESS-- SHE'S MY NEW FRIEND AND BODYGUARD.

shock

SORRY, TESS.

I'M CALLING YOU MY "BODY-GUARD" SO PEOPLE DON'T ASK...

THAT'S MY INTENTION ANYWAY

TESS, PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT AI-LAND ON THE WAY...

LET'S GET GOING, PRINCESS. WE'VE GOT A PHOTO SHOOT, RECORDING SESSION AND A PLANNING MEETING.

I DON'T KNOW MUCH.

ALL I KNOW IS HIDING FROM HUMANS--IN THE CAVES WHERE WE DOUGEN WHO ARE LEFT TAKE REFUGE.

ALL OF US HAVE PLACED OUR HOPE FOR FREEDOM IN NORA. THE LEADER OF OUR REVOLUTION.

I FINALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT ATTRACTED NORA TO YOU-- HE WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG.

I HAVE TO FIND THE ANSWERS-- TO HELP ALL OF YOUR FELLOW DOUGEN...

WOW!

HEY, KENT-- AI'S ON TV!

I FEEL SO HONORED BY ALL YOUR E-MAILS AND LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

AFTER THAT, I'LL DEPART ON MY FIRST WORLD TOUR.

WHILE IT MAY NOT BE MUCH...

...I PLAN TO HOLD A SPECIAL AUTOGRAPH SESSION THIS WEEKEND.

SO... I GUESS YOU'RE GOING?

huff

huff

suitcase

checkbook

KENT ...?

WORLD TOUR?! WOW!

AI'S REALLY BECOME A STAR-- HASN'T SHE, KENT?

Princess Ai Autograph Session "Angelic Confessions"

*Record-breaking hit with over 10 million sold!!*

WITH OVER TEN MILLION ALBUMS SOLD IN LESS THAN ONE WEEK, PRINCESS AI'S DEBUT IS THE FASTEST-SELLING MEGA-HIT EVER!

PRINCESS AI HAS TOPPED ALL THE CHARTS SINCE HER SMASH DEBUT!

Princess Ai Autograph Session

THE SPECIAL SET USED FOR HER AUTOGRAPH SESSION IS AN IMMACULATE GOTHIC DESIGN, WITH PURPLE AND BLACK THROUGHOUT.

GRRR

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED.

SECURITY'S SO TIGHT-- THEY DID A FULL BODY SEARCH.

HAVE TROUBLE GETTING IN? YOU SHOULD HAVE HAD THEM GET ME.

WHEW-- I FINALLY MADE IT...

SO FAR, SO GOOD..

HOW'S THE SESSION GOING?

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS STANDING BY, READY TO ATTACK WHEN NECESSARY--I JUST PULLED HER OUT AT THE END.

BUT...

LOOKS LIKE IT WAS YOU--NOT ME--WHO ENDED UP PROTECTING HER AFTER ALL, KENT.

I'M IMPRESSED.

HUH?

WE WOULDN'T BE WITH HER IF SHE DIDN'T NEED US...

...THIS IS BIGGER THAN EITHER OF US.

KENT...

HUH?

flick

SHE TRUSTS YOU, TAKESHI-- THAT'S WHY SHE FEELS SHE CAN GO ON. I'M SURE YOU'RE THE ONLY REASON SHE'S STILL WITH H.T.A.

TRUST...

HMPH.

..YOU KNOW HOW YOU CAN BE SOUND ASLEEP BUT NOT KNOW YOU WERE SLEEPING UNTIL YOU SUDDENLY WAKE UP? IT WAS KIND OF LIKE THAT.

WELL...

SOME-THING JUST CLICKED, AND I KNEW SHE NEEDED ME.

scratch scratch

...

HMM...

...I WONDER IF SHE NEEDS ME...

..

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO COME BACK FOR HER...

...EVEN AFTER SHE TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY?

.....

MAN, TALK ABOUT PRESSURE.

OKAY. STAY ALERT.

EVERY-THING'S FINE, SIR.

...ON NOT GETTING EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED IN MY WORK.

I ALWAYS PRIDED MYSELF...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

OH, NOTHING REALLY...

BUT I GUESS...

...EVERYONE HAS THEIR LIMITS...

TAKESHI...

...I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT LIMITS YOU MEAN...

...OR WHAT YOU'RE REALLY TALKING ABOUT...

...BUT IT DEFINITELY SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE REACHED YOURS.

# CHAPTER 12

# 第12話

PRINCESS AI SHOULD ARRIVE ANY MOMENT NOW WITH HER ENTOURAGE..

AND HERE SHE COMES!!

LONDON, LOS ANGELES, AND NOW SYDNEY--PRINCESS AI HAS REALLY TAKEN THE WORLD BY STORM WITH HER STADIUM CONCERT EXTRAVAGANZAS!

I'M REPORTING TO YOU LIVE FROM SYDNEY AIRPORT, WHERE THRONGS OF FANS HAVE GATHERED TO WISH AI A SAFE TRIP BACK HOME TO JAPAN.

AND HER FANS ARE GOING WILD!

PRINCESS AI HAS ARRIVED !!

I STILL THINK IT SHOULD BE ME, NOT HER--BUT I'M OVER IT.

PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD LOVE OUR AI.

NEITHER CAN I.

JEEZ...I STILL CAN'T GET USED TO HOW POPULAR YOU'VE BECOME.

WELL... I REALLY FEEL A BOND WITH MY FANS, BUT I'M NOT SURE.

HAS THIS SHORT TOUR BROUGHT YOU CLOSER TO ANY ANSWERS?

*WE BOTH KNOW I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME.*

*AI-LAND WON'T WAIT FOREVER FOR ME-- HOW CAN I USE MY MUSIC TO HELP THE DOUGEN BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...?*

*BUT HOW CAN I NOT WORRY..?*

*AT LEAST I HOPE...*

I'M SURE YOU'RE RIGHT

YEAH...

DON'T WORRY-- YOU'LL GET THERE...

AH, ZOROA, GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US...

AS PRINCESS AI RETURNS TO JAPAN FOR HER GRAND FINALE HOMECOMING CONCERT, WE'LL BE BRINGING YOU NONSTOP LIVE COVERAGE.

YES...SHE SHOULD BE LEAVING SYDNEY SHORTLY...

MISTER HAYABUSA, THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND INVITATION. I WAS JUST WATCHING YOUR NEW DIVA'S NEWS REPORT.

IT SEEMS THIS NEW DIVA HAS GAINED WORLDWIDE POPULARITY IN A RECORD AMOUNT OF TIME.

YOU HAVE TRULY OUTDONE YOURSELF, MISTER HAYABUSA.

MY MASTER PLAN IS UNFOLDING EVEN MORE IMPECCABLY THAN I HAD IMAGINED.

INDEED SHE HAS--AND THIS PLAYS INTO MY HAND PERFECTLY.

TOMORROW NIGHT'S STADIUM CONCERT WILL BE THE ULTIMATE STAGE.

IN DUE COURSE, ZOROA.

IF IT SO PLEASES YOU, MISTER HAYABUSA, COULD YOU POSSIBLY REVEAL YOUR PLAN?

I HAVE GIVEN MY DISCIPLES THEIR ORDERS... JUST AS YOU REQUESTED.

WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN IF OUR PRECIOUS PRINCESS AI WAS MURDERED DURING THAT CONCERT?

THE SHOW WILL BE SIMULCAST ON TELEVISION IN OVER 80 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE, WITH OVER 50 MILLION VIEWERS.

WE WILL ALL STAND TO MAKE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF PROFIT--FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

WE CAN RELEASE AND REPACKAGE CD AFTER CD, DVD AFTER DVD OF UNRELEASED CONTENT, REMIXES, TRIBUTES, MEMORIAL ANCILLARY GOODS-- WHATEVER WE CAN DREAM UP.

PRINCESS AI WOULD BECOME A LEGEND-- JUST LIKE JAMES DEAN OR JIMI HENDRIX OR KURT COBAIN. OUR CONTRACT WITH AI ASSURES US THAT IN THE EVENT OF HER DEATH, H.T.A. WILL CONTROL ALL RIGHTS AND REVENUE STREAMS-- IN PERPETUITY

--IS HE INVOLVED AS WELL?

UM, SIR... WHAT ABOUT TAKESHI? HE'S YOUR RIGHT-HAND MAN--

YES, SIR!

HIRO...

...YOUR ROLE IS CRITICAL.

IF TAKESHI DOES NOT MAKE HIS MOVE, YOU MUST DO IT.

HE CLEARLY HAS FEELINGS FOR THAT BITCH, SO I HAVE TO BE REALISTIC. I CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT TAKESHI WILL DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

TAKESHI.

HE'S BEEN GIVEN HIS ORDERS--BUT I HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT TAKESHI MAY BE WEAKER THAN I HAD HOPED.

TAKE HER OUT, TAKE HIM OUT AND SET IT UP SO THAT EVERYONE THINKS TAKESHI DID IT. I AM COUNTING ON YOUR ABILITY TO EXECUTE THE PERFECT SHOW.

EITHER WAY, YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO ACT FAST. IF TAKESHI OBEYS MY COMMAND AND TERMINATES HER, YOU MUST MOVE IN AND APPREHEND HIM. IT IS LIKELY HE WILL RESIST--AND EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, YOU WILL TAKE HIM OUT.

IT WILL LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ACTING IN DEFENSE OF H.T.A.

NOW, TIME FOR A TOAST!

ZOROA, YOU HAVE A SIMPLE ROLE. I HAVE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME, AND YOU HAVE DONE WELL BUILDING YOUR ARMY OF SUBSERVIENT FREAKS.

SINCE THEY CLING TO YOUR EVERY WORD, YOUR JOB IS EASY GET THEM TO WREAK HAVOC AND INCITE THE CROWD. THE MORE COMMOTION WE HAVE, THE BETTER.

IN A WORST-CASE SCENARIO, IN WHICH EVEN HIRO MAY FAIL WITH HIS PLAN, HAVE A FEW OF YOUR MEN READY TO DO THE DEED IF NEED BE.

TO OUR SOON-TO-BE IMMORTAL ROCK DIVA AND AN ETERNITY OF GUARANTEED PROFITS!

YOUR REWARD WILL BE MORE THAN GENEROUS, AS IT ALWAYS IS.

YOU MUST REALLY BE POOPED.

I BROUGHT YOUR BAG.

THANKS, JEN

FINALLY, I GET TO SLEEP IN MY OWN BED! ♡

NO ONE TOLD ME HOW EXHAUSTING A WORLD TOUR WOULD BE.

Good night! ♡

SLEEP TIGHT, PRINCESS!

PRINCESS. IF YOU NEED ME JUST CALL.

SURE. ♡ GET PLENTY OF REST!

I'M BEAT, TOO. GUESS IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO HOME...

GOOD NIGHT, AI!

JEN, YOU'RE THE BEST! ♡

WELL, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT. OKAY, I'LL STAY OVER. ♡

YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO THE CONCERT TOMORROW, RIGHT? IF YOU STAY HERE, IT'LL BE WAY EASIER FOR YOU!

Not you, Jen!

YOU'VE GOT ALL YOUR STUFF WITH YOU.

AND THERE'S A HUGE SOFA BED IN MY LIVING ROOM.

It's girls' slumber party night!

EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BECOME A SUPERSTAR, SURROUNDED BY ALL THESE TALENTED PEOPLE--YOU'VE STAYED A TRUE FRIEND.

AI, YOU'RE SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN.

NO, I'M NOT EXAGGERATING-- I REALLY LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

YOU'RE LIKE THE SISTER I NEVER HAD. ♡

Hug

Hug

Hug ♡

AI, YOU'RE SO SWEET.

I'M REALLY PROUD OF WHO YOU'VE BECOME, AI.

HEY, YOU-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

!

PRINCESS, WAKE UP

THERE'S AN INTRUDER IN THE LIVING ROOM

INTRUDER ...?

THAT'S WHERE JEN IS!

YOU STAY HERE PRINCESS-- I'LL GO

AGGHHH!!

!

I'VE GOT IT--!

Unnnh...

HOW DARE YOU STEAL AI'S PRECIOUS BOX?!

OH MY GOD! JEN, ARE YOU OKAY?!

JEN, CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

JEN.

JEN!!

BUT... WHEN I TOUCHED... THE BOX...

...I... FELT SO... WEAK...

THE BOX... THAT... YOU CHERISH SO MUCH... AI...

I...I... GOT IT... BACK.

THIS GUY'S DEAD.

SOMETHING S STRANGE..

AM I... DYING... TOO...?

AI...

PLEASE... DON'T CRY...

BECAUSE... I'M REALLY... PROUD... OF YOU, AI....

JEN!

DON'T GO!!

NO!

I KNOW... YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK...

THIS IS MADE OF PURE TENKETSU

I SHOULDN'T HOLD THIS FOR TOO LONG...

EVEN DOUGEN EXPOSED TO TENKETSU FOR TOO LONG OFTEN HAVE NARCOTIC REACTIONS

IF HUMANS TOUCH TENKETSU IT CAN EASILY MEAN DEATH

TENKETSU-- THE BLOOD OF ANGELS

...THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF ENERGY THROUGHOUT AI-LAND

JEN... PLEASE... SAY SOME-THING...

PLEASE..

PRINCESS. PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER-

PLEASE...

WINGS WITH RED FEATH-ERS

THE TRUTH HAS BECOME OBVIOUS

...AND NO PHYSICAL REACTION TO TENKETSU

--RED?!

TEARS OF...

YOU ARE OF DOUGEN BLOOD-- JUST LIKE ME.
YOU ARE NOT HUMAN, PRINCESS AI.

Ai!

EVEN THOUGH I KNEW HOW DANGEROUS IT WAS

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT

GOOD MORNING, PRINCESS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE JEN'S... DEAD...

PLEASE LET GO OF ME.

grab

THAT THIEF LAST NIGHT-- I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE!

HE WORKED FOR YOU, DIDN'T HE?!

YES, HE WORKED FOR ME...

...BUT HE DID WHAT HE DID ON HIS OWN.

SHE JUST LOST HER BEST FRIEND!

FORGET ABOUT THE STUPID CONCERT!

AI, TONIGHT'S CONCERT IS IN OSAKA.

YOU HAVE TO GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF.

NO-- TAKESHI'S RIGHT.

I WANT TO...

AI, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS.

I HAVE TO DO THIS...

...FOR JEN.

PIT STOP TIME.

SCREECH

PRINCESS, FOR YOUR PROTECTION, PLEASE STAY ON THE BUS.

Ah, my back hurts!

Aren't we there yet...?

THEY ENSLAVE ANGELS TO DRAW THEIR BLOOD IN ORDER TO USE ITS ENERGY...

...AND EVEN MAKE ORNAMENTS ...!

THE SAME SUBSTANCE THAT SUPPORTS AI-LAND ALSO KILLS PEOPLE.

WHY DO I EVEN HAVE THIS VULGAR TRINKET?

AS EVIDENCE ...?

OKAY. BE CAREFUL, KENT.

SEEMS FISHY.

I HEARD FROM YOSHI THAT NO ONE'S EVEN CONTACTED THEM YET.

AI...

...I'M GOING TO CALL THE COPS.

WRIGGLE

!!!

ROWR

PRINCESS-
GET
DOWN!

HUH?

IT SEEMS MY BIG SIS HAS GONE ASTRAY SIDING WITH THIS WRETCHED HUMAN

WELL WELL

A SNAKE!

PRINCESS BE CAREFUL THE SNAKE AND HER HUMAN BOTH ARE VENOMOUS

MI GOD

BUT THAT S OKAY--IT WILL PLEASE KAZ ALL THE MORE IF I BRING YOU **BOTH** BACK

SHUT UP!!

WITH MORALS LIKE THOSE IT'S NO WONDER YOU WOULD KILL YOUR OWN BEST FRIEND

SO, MISS AI...

...YOU THINK YOUR LOVE CAN CONQUER ALL?

MEGGI! STOP THIS NOW! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND

SHE'S NOT HUMAN-- SHE'S BOUGEN! SHE'S ONE OF US!

YOU AND KAZ HAVE GOT IT ALL WRONG!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT KAZ WANTS.

PERHAPS SHE CAN WIN YOU WITH HER WILY WAYS. BUT NOT ME!

FOOL!

AS YOU JUMP FROM ONE MAN TO ANOTHER YOU DON'T EVEN REALIZE THAT THE MEN YOU THINK YOU LOVE...HAVE BEEN WITH OTHERS ALL ALONG!

AH, MY SWEET KAZ. I WILL MAKE YOU PROUD OF ME AND NOT LET--!

GET THOSE FLOWERS AWAY FROM ME

JUST LOOKING AT THEM MAKES ME SICK!

!!!

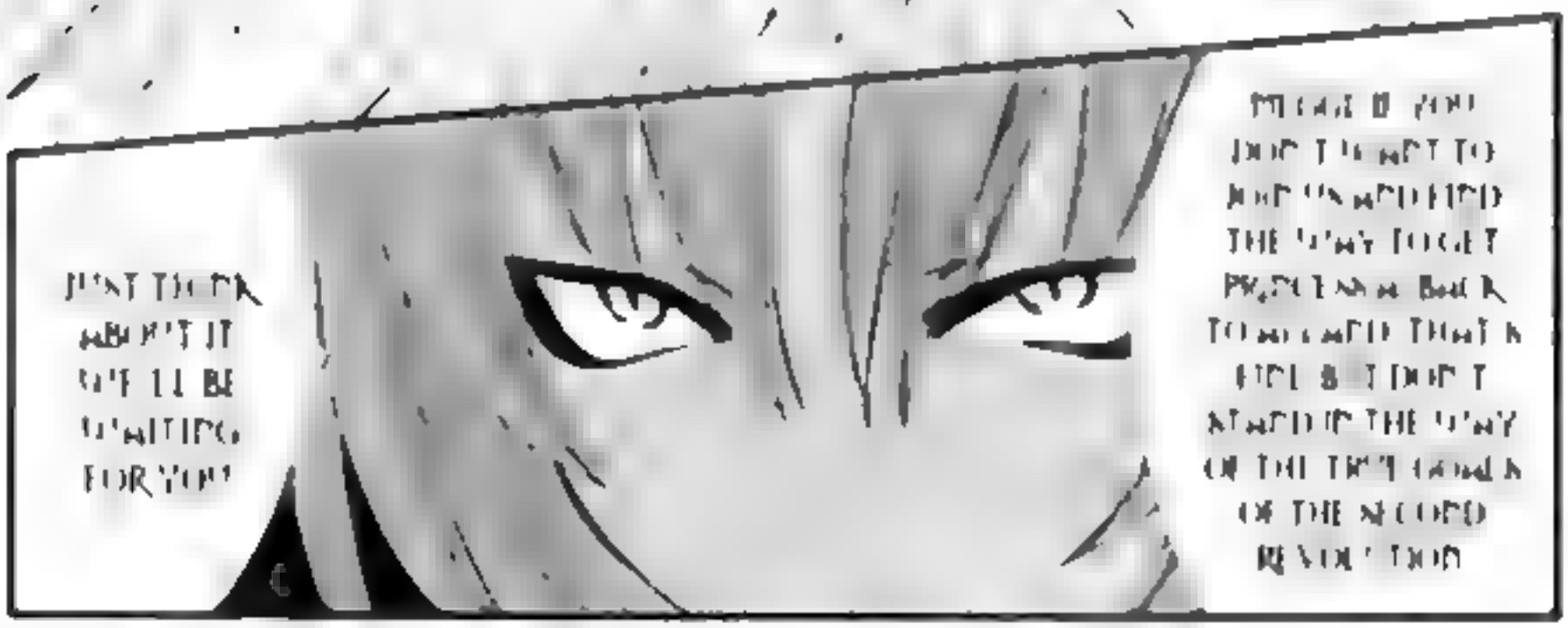
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT I KNOW THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF MY SISTER?

THAT YOU USE JEALOUSY AND VENGEANCE TO MANIPULATE YOUR ENEMIES? THAT FLOWERS REPRESENT PURE JOY AND FELICITY - WHICH YOU SO DESPISE?

MEGGI IS KAZ ALL YOU CARE ABOUT?

WHAT ABOUT YOUR FELLOW DOUGEN. WHO ARE ENSLAVED AS WE SPEAK?

DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT THE SECOND REVOLU-TION?



"TAKE THAT!"
Cute as ever, Tess!
Heebe jeebe

THANK YOU, TESS

I'M JUST A [illegible] ON [illegible] TO SAVE ME

HUH?

TESS...

YOU REALLY ARE A TRUE FRIEND. THANK YOU.

I ALREADY BEGINNED YOUR CALLING I AM READY FOR YOUR COMMAND

ALEXA

YOUR SISTERS ARE BOTH ON THE OTHER SIDE. TESS HAS BEEN TURNED BY THAT EVIL HUMAN WITCH I DON'T BELIEVE MEGGI WILL MEET THE SAME FATE BUT I CANNOT BE SURE. THERE IS NO TIME LEFT TO TAKE CHANCES

YOU MUST JOIN THEM USE YOUR POWER TO KEEP MEGGI ON YOUR SIDE- AND BRING AI BACK AT ALL COSTS!

AT YOUR COMMAND

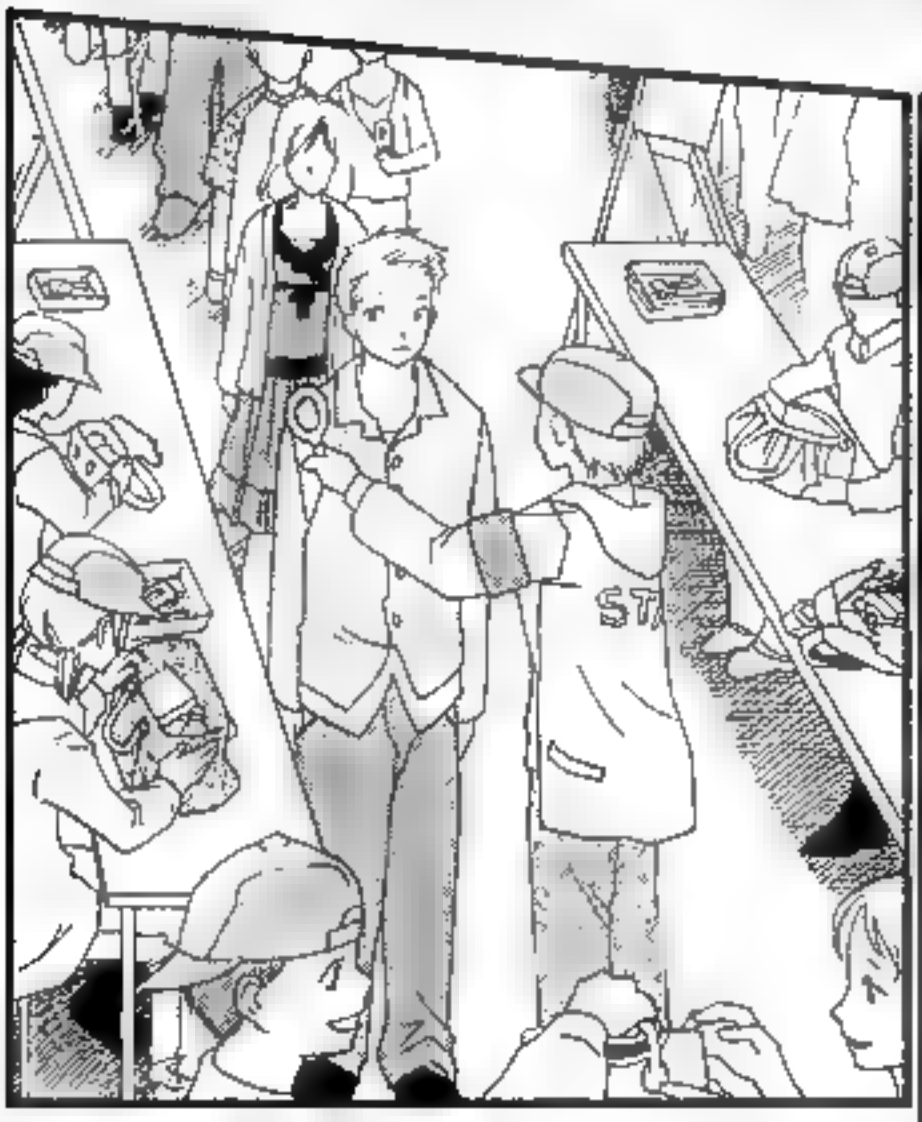
# CHAPTER 12

FIN

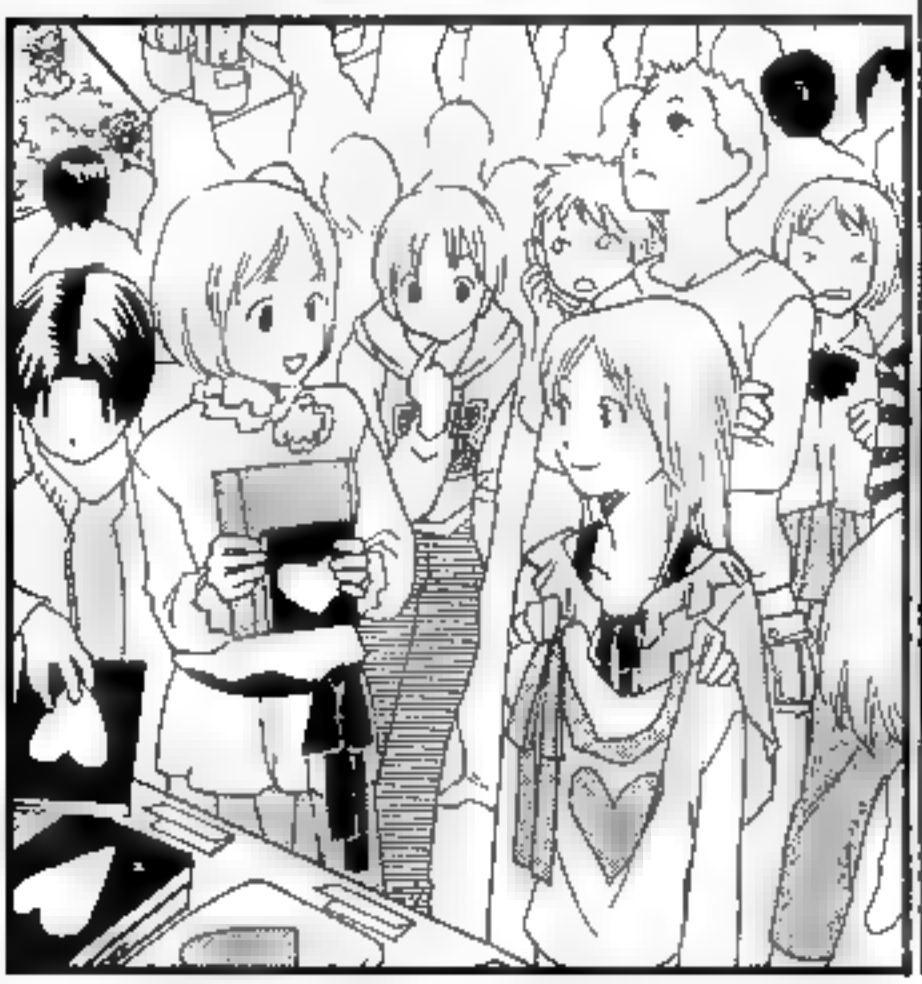
CHAPTER

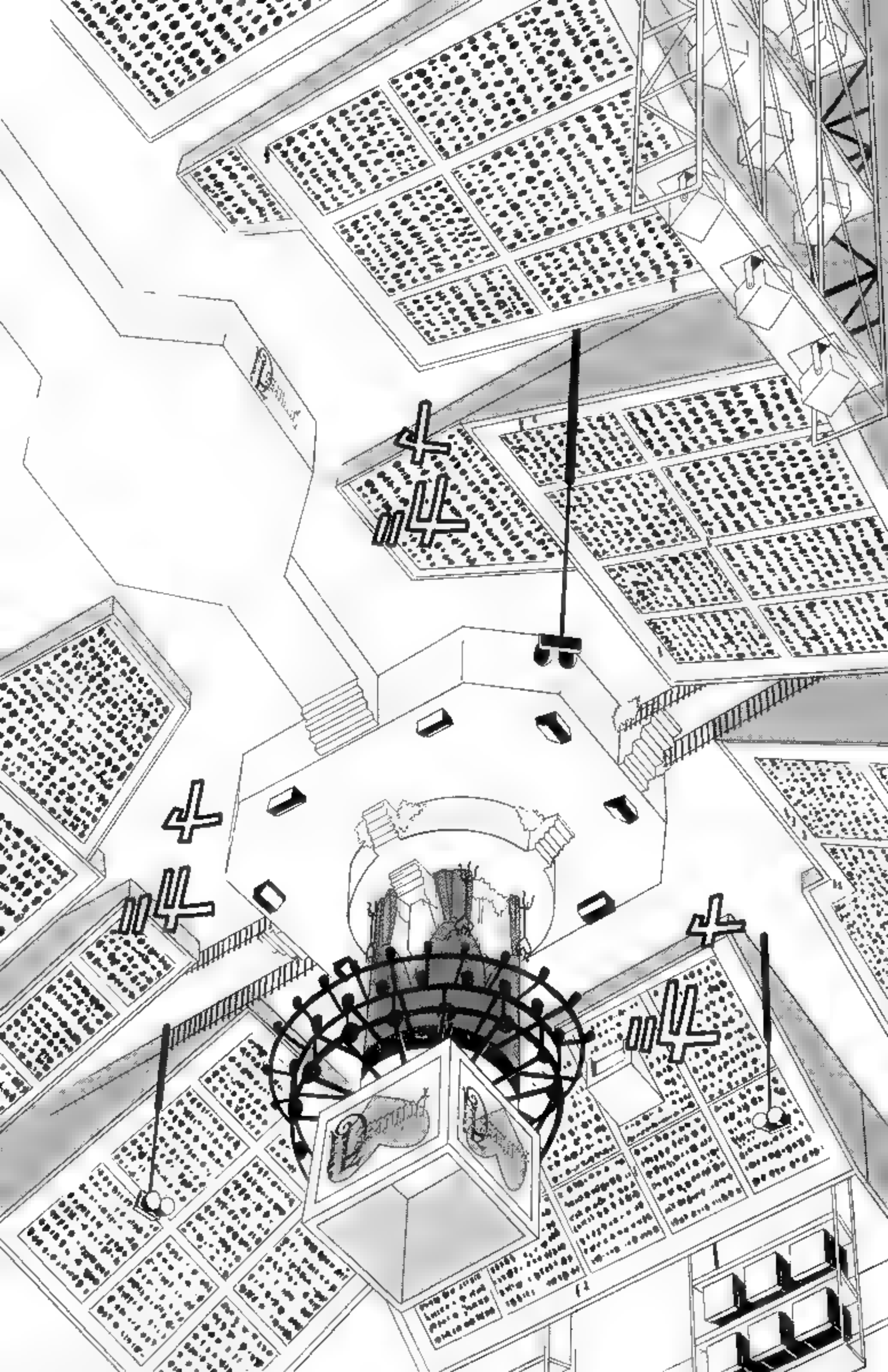
# 13

第八話



Princess Ai World Tour
Princess Ai
All tickets
SOLD OUT





AT LEAST AFTER TONIGHT, OUR PRINCESS CAN FINALLY REST.

EVERYONE'S SO EXHAUSTED AFTER THIS WORLD TOUR. I CAN'T BELIEVE TONIGHT'S THE FINAL SHOW.

I heard this stadium holds over 100,000 people!

WOW, YOSHI, IT'S SO CROWDED OUT THERE.

I THINK I'M MORE NERVOUS THAN PRINCESS AI...

PRINCESS AI IS DOING THIS FOR JEN--SHE NEEDS OUR SUPPORT TONIGHT.

HIKARU, IT'S HARDER ON THE PRINCESS THAN ANY OF US.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW AI CAN GET ON STAGE AND PERFORM.

I CAN'T BELIEVE JEN'S GONE...IT'S JUST NOT THE SAME WITHOUT HER.

SMASH

Princess Ai
Dressing Room

Enter and perish!
--Ai

I CAN'T HELP IT, KENT. THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE PISSED OFF I GET!

EVERYTHING PISSES ME OFF--THIS DAMN BOX, THE ASS-HOLE WHO TRIED TO STEAL IT--

--AND, MOST OF ALL, ME!

AI, GET AHOLD OF YOUR-SELF!

3...

squeeze

LOOK, AI...

...I FEEL YOUR PAIN... YOUR ANGER... YOUR FRUSTRATION...

...BUT I CAN'T LET YOU GO THROUGH ALL OF THAT WITHOUT REMINDING YOU HOW MUCH EVERYONE AROUND YOU NEEDS YOU. WE'RE ALL HERE FOR YOU--AND **BECAUSE** OF YOU.

BUT IT WON'T BRING JEN BACK-- SO HOW CAN IT BE FOR HER?!

THIS CONCERT-- I'M SUPPOSED TO DO IT FOR JEN, RIGHT?

AND I LET JEN DOWN!

IT'S...

...IT'S... JUST ANOTHER SELFISH EXCUSE!!

IF...

...IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, JEN WOULD STILL BE ALIVE TODAY.

...I NEED TO HEAR YOU SING TONIGHT.

NO...

IT'S SO NEEDED--YOUR BEAUTY, YOUR VOICE, YOUR GLITTERING AURA...

BUT PLEASE SING FOR ME--FOR ALL OF US.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ENJOY IT OR EVEN FAKE A SMILE.

BUT LET YOUR VOICE OUT FOR THE REST OF US.

IF YOU NEED TO WALLOW IN DESOLATION, FINE.

YOU CAN HATE YOURSELF, BUT THAT'S NOT THE REAL YOU.

LET YOUR PAIN OUT SO YOUR HATE CAN RETURN TO LOVE.

...RETURN TO LOVE...?

MY HATE...

PRINCESS, PLEASE REFRAIN FROM VIOLENCE...

BUT THEY INSULTED ME! I HEARD THEM SAY I'M WILD AND RAUCOUS LIKE A BEAST!!

I should've done some kickboxing moves on 'em.

FORGET THEM, PRINCESS.

I HATE THEM...

LISSA...?

YES, PRINCESS?

LISSA...

...THE SERVANTS WERE SPREADING HIDEOUS RUMORS AGAIN!

WORDS FROM MY PAST...

IT'S COMING BACK TO ME...

THEY MADE ME SO MAD THAT I KICKED THEM!

WHAT EXACTLY ARE THE RUMORS ABOUT MY MOTHER, QUEEN LILITH?

PR--

PRIN-CESS...

I NEVER MET HER.. I KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT HER...

PLEASE, LISSA, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW!

...WHY WON'T YOU TELL ME!

LISSA..

...BUT CAN YOU AT LEAST TELL ME ONE THING! DO THE RUMORS INVOLVE ME AT ALL!

PRINCESS...

I'M SO SORRY...

PRINCESS...

I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE YOU SUFFER...

. .NOT KNOWING THE TRUTH...

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WANT TO PROTECT ME, LISSA...

YOU ARE SMART AND BEAUTIFUL. JEALOUS PEOPLE SAY CRUEL THINGS...

QUEEN LILITH WAS NOT YOUR MOTHER.

WHY ALL THE LIES...?

.....

WHY...

PRINCESS, I'M SO SORRY...

YOUR FATHER, KING SEI--IF HE KNEW I TOLD YOU...

...I WOULD BE EXECUTED. DON'T HATE HIM FOR THIS, PRINCESS.

FORGIVE US ALL--SO YOUR HATE WITHIN CAN RETURN TO LOVE...

I FINALLY UNDERSTAND..

...HOW I COULD BE DOUGEN.

HUH?

.....

IF I'M DOUGEN-- AND NOT OF HUMAN BLOOD--

BUT THERE'S ONE THING I DON'T GET...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S COME BACK TO ME.

--THEN WHY DO I HAVE THE ROYAL BIRTHMARK OF A RED ROSE?

I FINALLY...

...REMEMBER.

I DON'T KNOW WHO MY REAL MOTHER IS.

Blush

YEAH, THIS ONE HERE. IT'S NOT A TATTOO--I WAS BORN WITH THIS...

BIRTHMARK?

MAYBE YOU'RE HALF DOUGEN AND HALF HUMAN.

My father has the same one...

YEAH, LIKE ME. I'M HALF JAPANESE AND HALF AMERICAN.

HALF?

IF YOU'RE THE CHILD OF A HUMAN FATHER AND A DOUGEN MOTHER, YOU'RE HALF, TOO.

I KNOW!

MY FATHER--THAT ASSHOLE MUST HAVE RAPED A DOUGEN WOMAN!

BUT IT'S THE ONLY LOGICAL CONCLUSION...

IMPOS-SIBLE!

MY FATHER HATES DOUGEN.

AND THE DOUGEN HATE HUMANS EVEN MORE!

AI, YOU'RE WRONG

AND THAT'S WHY HE WAS ALWAYS SO STRICT WITH ME GROWING UP

WHAT?

JUST LIKE THE LOVE I FELT BEFORE

YOUR FATHER MUST HAVE LOVED YOUR MOTHER VERY MUCH.

LOVE BETWEEN DOUGEN AND HUMAN FORBIDDEN LOVE.

...BETWEEN NORA AND ME... FORBIDDEN...

IF NOT, HE WOULDN'T HAVE NAMED YOU "AI," MEANING "LOVE."

IF YOU DON T FEEL UP TO IT, I'LL LET THEM KNOW.

PRINCESS .. ARE YOU THERE?

knock knock

PRINCESS, IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO ON STAGE. ARE YOU READY?

YOSHI...

I DON'T KNOW...

YOU OKAY?

I'M NOT REALLY IN THE MOOD TO SING...

I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.

..JEN WOULD'VE BEEN DISAP-POINTED IF I QUIT NOW.

BUT...

ka-
chak

DAMN...

TAKESHI, I'M AWARE THAT YOU'RE THE BOSS' GO-TO GUY, BUT ARE YOU SLIPPING?

OF COURSE NOT.

HM?

OH, YEAH, GOT IT.

TAKESHI, AI'S GOING ON.

IT SEEMS HE CALLED THE COPS ABOUT LAST NIGHT'S INCIDENT.

WELL, YOU KNOW AI'S TAG-ALONG--

--WHAT'S HIS NAME-- KENT?

I HOPE YOU DO. I'D HATE TO SEE YOUR SLIP-UPS GET IN THE WAY OF THE BOSS' PERFECT PLAN.

PERFECT PLAN?

LEAVE IT ALONE.

I'VE GOT IT COVERED.

OH...

YEAH, SURE.

YES, PRINCESS AI WILL BECOME THE GREATEST ROCK DIVA WHO EVER LIVED.

THE BOSS IS EXPECTING US TO EXECUTE OUR ASSIGNMENTS TO A TEE.

AI♡

Love Princess AI♡♡

Ai!!

--THIS IS SO COOOOOOL!! ♡

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M AT THE FINAL CONCERT--

TIME TO START THE SHOW-- ALL RIGHT!!

GOOD. DON'T FORGET TO DOUBLE-CHECK BELOW THE SEATS FOR YOUR WEAPONS.

EVERYTHING'S READY, LORD ZOROA.

zzzap

MEGCL

Yank

ALEXA! SO YOU'VE JOINED US HERE ON THE OTHER SIDE ♡

OF COURSE THE TENKETSU INSIDE WOULD EASILY KILL A HUMAN.

WITH IT I CAN CAPTURE AND SEAL AWAY ANY ALLIANDER

IT'S MY OWN SPECIAL CREATION ♡

THAT ARROW!

I'LL HANG BACK AND COVER YOU WHEN YOU ATTACK. MEGGI KAZ WILL BE PLEASED WHEN -

WELL WELL

GLAD TO HEAR YOU HAVEN'T TURNED

TESS' ALL THREE FURIE SISTERS TOGETHER AGAIN.

I WON'T LET EITHER OF YOU HARM PRINCESS AI!

Hmph!

YEEEEAH!

YEAAAH!

AWLRIIIIGHT!

Hello!! Everybody♡

WOOOO!

IS EVERYBODY READY?

COME ON-- START THE SHOW, PRINCESS AI!

WE'RE READY! WE'RE READY!!

THAT WAS PRINCESS AI'S VOICE!

*THE CLOSER I GET TO THE STAGE, THE LONELIER I FEEL.*

*IS THIS THE RIGHT THING TO DO--FOR JEN, FOR EVERYONE, FOR ME?*

*MY PARENTS--DID THEY REALLY BEAR ME FROM LOVE, OR FROM HATE?*

...BUT THE HORRIBLE CRIMES OF MY WORLD...

...HAUNT THE SOULS OF MY PEOPLE.

DARKNESS...

I'VE TRIED TO IGNORE THE DARKNESS I FEEL ALL AROUND ME...

Kick

YEAAHHHH!!!!

IT'S PRINCESS AI!!!!!

We ♥ PRINCESS AI

アア

Princess Ai

FINALLY

YOU'VE SHOWN YOURSELF ♡

ア

ア

ア

Nooo!

throw

throw

Tess Flower Attack Part 2

Welcome Princess Al

Born without Love inside me...

Born with a need to perform...

Born out of vengeance, born out of scorn, Born out of hatred, out of love torn..

Born with a mission, born with a drive,

Born with a need, with a will to survive...

MY SONGS... WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT...

Now it's time to show you what I'm really all about...

I JUST FEEL THE SONGS, THE LYRICS...

LIKE A MUSE LIVING IN MY SUBCONSCIOUS...

No more pretensions;
no more frothing at the mouth...

There's no use hiding all my sins deep inside;
I'll wear them on my shoulder as a badge of pride!

whack!

TESS, STOP IT ALREADY!

NO MEGGI GIVE IT

HUH?

A SHADOW... IN THE LIGHTS...

TESS I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE YOU LIKE THIS

OHHH ALEXA

YOU'RE BOTH WRONG ABOUT PRINCESS AT

!!

I'm a Daughter of Death

From my very first breath!

I'm a Daughter of Death,
Blood red as Macbeth!

KENT--
WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?!

I'm a..

AI!!

.Daughter of Death!

*The darkness of doom surrounds me,*
*the Daughter of Death...*

# CHAPTER 14

DAUGHTER OF DEATH...

MY SONG HAS BROUGHT DARKNESS...

第14話

KENT!!!

NO! I'M NOT LEAVING YOU ALONE, KENT.

...GET OFF THE... STAGE...

AI...

DRAT! THAT JERK BLOCKED MY SHOT!

I'VE ONLY GOT A FEW ARROWS LEFT...

MY DARLING KENT--!

HIKARU!

HEY!

OPEN YOUR EYES-- I CAN'T LOSE YOU NEXT! OH, KENT-- I'M SO SORRY!

PLEASE, NO!

PLEASE... DON'T GIVE UP...YOU ARE SO IMPORTANT TO SO MANY PEOPLE, AI... I DID WHAT I WAS HERE TO DO...

AI...IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT...

LIKE JEN...I'LL ALWAYS... BE WITH YOU. WE BELIEVE... IN YOU... WE KNOW YOU...CAN SAVE YOUR HOME...

YOU'RE... NOT ALONE, AI.

I CAN'T BEAR TO BE ALONE-- IN THE DARKNESS-- WITHOUT YOU.

NO, KENT! DON'T LEAVE ME!

FORGET MY SEARCH--AND THE ANSWERS I'M SUPPOSED TO FIND. IT'S NOT WORTH LOSING YOU!

FORGET AI-LAND! MY CLOSEST FRIENDS ARE DYING *HERE!*

*DARKNESS IS CALLING ME...*

...

AI...

*DARKNESS...ON BEHALF OF DEATH...*

I FOUND...

...MY MEANING ...

...YOUR SEARCH...

DON'T GIVE... UP...

...ALL
MY LIFE...
ALL MY
LOVE...
TO YOU,
AI...
TO
GIVE...

KENT, NO!

OPEN YOUR EYES!

KENT ...?

KENT!!

THE DARKNESS CREEPS INSIDE...

FUME

LOOKS LIKE THE POOR LITTLE PRINCESS IS IN PAIN! ♡

AI

I CAN'T LOOK

GET AI OFF-STAGE NOW!

STOP THE SHOW!

THEY SAY WE AIN'T FAIR

SOMETHING SEEMS STRANGE LIKE A WITCH HAS FLIPPED INSIDE HER

I'LL GIVE IT ANOTHER BIT

THEY SAY WE AIN'T FAIR

THEY SAY WE AIN'T FAIR

THEY SAY WE AIN'T FAIR

*Don't let me go there.*

*I'm not looking for fair...*

...BUT SOMETHING'S... DIFFERENT...

SHE'S...

...SINGING...

*..I'm just looking for where...*

*...I can point this thing*
*And blast away blast away blast away!!*

BOTH OF YOU, GET THE HELL OUTTA MY WAY--

HEY, DON'T PUSH ME!

SHUT UP--

YOU SUCK!

MAN, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS SHOW?!

BITE ME!

SCREW YOU, ASSHOLE!

ME, TOO.

I FEEL SICK...

THIS SUCKS!

*You're gonna feel this,*

*You won't forget it.*

*No way to heal this,*
*So you'll regret it!*

AL...

HER WRATH IS INFECTING EVERYONE!

NOW WE SEE THE **REAL** YOU

MISS AI

pull

I'LL GET THAT BITCH EVEN IF I USE UP ALL MY ARROWS!

♪

MEGGI, YOU MISSED!

MEGGI YOU'VE LOST IT...!

ALEXA!

WATCH MEGGI-- I'LL HANDLE MISS AI MYSELF

SIS!

BUT AT THIS RATE MEGGI WON'T STOP UNTIL AI'S DEAD

TESS. I KNOW YOU'RE NOW LOYAL TO MISS AI. BUT THINK OF WHAT'S BEST

WE WERE SENT TO CAPTURE AI NOT KILL HER

HER PAIN FROM JEN'S DEATH AND NOW KENT'S HAS ERUPTED AS PURE HATRED THE ENTIRE STADIUM IS GOING INSANE!

THIS HAS GONE TOO FAR, PRINCESS! AI'S NEGATIVE ENERGY IS CAUSING A FULL FLEDGED RIOT

SMASH IT OVER HIS HEAD--KILL HIM!

I'M NOT GOING TO LET ALEXA CAPTURE AI' THE GLORY-- AND THE PRAISE FROM KAZ IS MINE!

THE TWO OF YOU JUST DON'T GET IT

YOU WANT ME!!
COME AND GET ME!!
A LITTLE ANGRY ARE WE, MISS AI?
!

IMAGINE ENTIRE FAMILIES BEING TAKEN AS SLAVES MURDERED TORTURED FORCED TO DO UNTHINKABLE THINGS HOW WOULD YOU FEEL THEN?

LET ME TELL YOU A BIT ABOUT **REAL** PAIN **REAL** SUFFERING

TWO FRIENDS HAVE DIED-- SO NOW YOU'RE DEMANDING BLOODY REVENGE HOW QUAINT

EVEN KAZ WANTS FREEDOM MORE THAN REVENGE

WE FIGHT TO FREE OURSELVES NOT FOR REVENGE

THAT IS WHAT YOU HUMANS HAVE DONE TO US DOUGLA

IT WAS YOU-- YOU SHOT THAT ARROW!

YOU KILLED KENT!!

BUT REVENGE SEEMS TO BE ALL YOU SEEK.

ﾌﾗｯ

YOUR FAITS...

REFLECT YOUR TRUE SELF--YOU'RE A DESTROYER. JUST LIKE YOUR FELLOW HUMANS.

LET IT BURN!

THE STAGE IS ON FIRE!

MISS AI TAKE A LOOK AT THE RIOT YOU'VE CAUSED.

I DON'T NEED ANSWERS ANYMORE. YOU CAN ALL JUST DIE!

BUT NOW ALL YOU'VE DONE IS TAKEN THOSE I LOVE!

I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU DOUGEN! I TRIED TO FIND THE ANSWERS-- THE WAY TO SAVE YOUR KIND.

UMPH!

BE STILL.

ドサッ

TAKESHI!

SEEMS PRETTY CLEAR TO ME NOW--I JUST PULL THIS TRIGGER, AND YOU'RE GONE.

HARD TO BELIEVE I WAS TORN OVER DOING THIS.

...ALL ALONE WITH NOTHING BUT ANGER.

I'M HATED BY DOUGEN, HATED BY HUMANS...

IT'S CLEAR AS CRYSTAL TO ME.

カチ!

YOU MIGHT AS WELL SHOOT-- AND PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY.

ドサッ

WHAT...

...AM I--?

……

WHAT THE --!

FREEZE

!!

TAKESHI'S GUN--

I COULDN'T LET YOU GET SHOT STOPPING TIME SEEMED LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

YES. MISS AI - ONE OF MY HANDY LITTLE POWERS.

!

TAKESHI, THE AUDIENCE, EVERYTHING..

IT'S ALL FROZEN...

INFLUENCED BY YOUR OWN BLOODLUST THAT HUMAN WAS READY TO KILL **YOU.** HOW IRONIC

THEY'LL KILL ANYTHING EVEN THEIR OWN KIND

HUMANS ARE SO FOOLISH

WHY IS IT POINTING DOWN? WASN'T HE ABOUT TO SHOOT ME--?

...KENT'S DEATH-- WERE ALL CAUSED BY ME, BY THIS RAGE I HAVE INSIDE?

...JEN'S DEATH.

BECAUSE I'M A **DESTROYER!** TAKESHI'S ACTIONS...

THOSE BIRDS-- HOW CAN THEY FLY WHEN I'VE FROZEN TIME?"

!

IS THAT WHAT YOU BELIEVE MISS AI?

OR BEHALF OF DEATH?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO KILLED KENT--

DOES IT CAUSE YOU FEAR?

--HOW DO YOU KNOW THE DEATH-BIRD ISN'T HERE FOR YOU?

THAT BIRD--

--IT'S THE SAME KIND I SAW WHEN JEN DIED.

IT'S A BIRD OF PREY-- HERE ON BEHALF OF DEATH.

Grab

I'VE HAD ENOUGH, MISS AI!

YOUR TIME ON EARTH HAS COME TO AN END!

HMPH.

MEGGI S
ARROW!

Kick

NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR KENT'S MURDER!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SONG.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING A LIGHT INTO MY DARKNESS.

!

LET YOUR PAIN OUT SO YOUR HATE CAN RETURN TO LOVE.

PLEASE KEEP SINGING AND TOUCHING HEARTS FOREVER..

AI...

YOU ARE SO SPECIAL ...

DON'T HATE HIM FOR THIS, PRINCESS.

FORGIVE US ALL-- SO YOUR HATE WITHIN CAN RETURN TO LOVE..

WHAT GOOD IS LOVE?

WHAT'S..

..LOVE?

!

glance

TAKESHI-- YOU WERE READY TO SHOOT ME...

WHY IS YOUR GUN POINTING DOWN?

IF MY WRATH DID AFFECT YOU...

...WAS SOMETHING INSIDE YOUR HEART ABLE TO OVERCOME IT?

SNIFF...

TO GIVE...
ALL MY LIFE...

...ALL MY LOVE...
TO YOU, AL..

I FOUND...
MY MEANING...

I'M NOT...
CAN'T BE...A
DESTROYER!

KENT..

I WANT TO BE SOMEONE...

...WHO CREATES... AND NURTURES... LOVE!

I...

...LIKE THE RED TEARS OF ANGELS BLOOD?!

HER TEARS ARE... RED...

flutter

!

FA'AN?!

THAT VOICE--!

DO YOU FEEL DIFFERENT NOW THAN YOU DID A FEW MINUTES AGO WHEN YOU WERE ANGRY?

AI, YOU HAVE FINALLY DISCOVERED THE TRUTH INSIDE OF YOU.

WHY DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH? AND WHO AM I?!

FA'AN, WHO ARE YOU?

DON'T YOU THINK CALLING ME "DEATH-BIRD" WAS A BIT HARSH?

PUT IT THIS WAY, AI--I WATCH OVER YOU.

I'M A WATCHER... KIND OF A GUARDIAN ANGEL.

THOUGH SINCE DEATH IS NOTHING MORE THAN A NEW BEGINNING--

--I SUPPOSE IT'S A COMPLIMENT.

AI, EVERYONE HAS THE POWER TO EITHER DESTROY OR CREATE. YOU JUST HAVE IT ON A GREATER SCALE.

I CANNOT TELL YOU WHO YOU ARE OR GIVE YOU THE ANSWERS YOU'VE SOUGHT.

BUT THINK ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU'VE LEARNED SINCE YOU'VE COME HERE--TO THE OTHER SIDE.

THE ANSWER YOU SEEK IS WITHIN YOU.

I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN--

MISS AI--

-YOU VE STARTED TIME FLOWING AGAIN'

Plop

HOW --?

OH! THE RED BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY!

HHPPP

.....

WHOA...

Click

I REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST FOUND THIS BOOK.

YOU WERE THERE, KENT, TO HELP ME BEGIN MY SEARCH.

KENT...

...I'VE CHOSEN.

IF THE ANSWERS TO MY SEARCH ARE WITHIN ME...

...THEN MAYBE THEY SHOULD BE WHAT I CHOOSE THEM TO BE.

dim

PERFECT TIMING, SIR.

switch

WHAT'S THE STATUS OF MY ROCK DIVA?

Dial Dial

HIRO, I'VE ARRIVED AT THE STADIUM.

YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO WATCH HER DIE.

# CHAPTER 15

# 第1話

I'M A CREATOR--
A PROVIDER--
OF LOVE.
I'M NOT A
DESTROYER.

WAAGH!

IT'S IT'CH BACK

A BLACK-OUT!

11

IS THIS HAYABUSA'S PLAN B?

FEAR...

DARKNESS...

...MADE ME WANT TO HATE AND DESTROY.

THE DARKNESS THAT TRAPPED ME BEFORE...

EVERYONE'S BEEN ACTING SO WEIRD!

I hate the dark!

HEY!

WHERE'S THE SHOW?!

I'M SO SCARED-- THIS ISN'T WHAT I CAME HERE FOR!

...IS...

...I NEED...

THIS IS MY CHANCE TO CAPTURE AI!

WHAT...

NOTHING GOOD COMES FROM DARK-NESS.

gleam

SAYONARA, PRINCESS AI!

LIGHT!!

BLAM

FLASH

FLASH

FLASH

FLASH

melt

THANK GOD-- I HATED IT DARK.

FLASH

THE LIGHTS ARE BACK ON!

BUT WHERE'S PRINCESS AI?

melt

WH--?

MORE..

...LIGHT...

HEY, SORRY FOR PUSHING YOU.

NAW IT WAS MY FAULT

WHY WAS I SO UPSET?

MISS AI SHIELDED ME?

I FEEL SO WARM.

CRYSTALS...

...OF LIGHT?

THE WARMTH OF LIGHT AND LOVE--THIS PLACE IS FILLED WITH PRINCESS AI'S POSITIVE ENERGY

A MIRACLE BEFORE MY VERY EYES?

WHAT IS GOING ON?

POSITIVE ENERGY MORE POWERFUL THAN TENKETSU!

THE POWER TO CREATE LIGHT...

Not even the Angels of Ar-Land have red wings!

HER WINGS-- THEY'VE BECOME COMPLETELY RED

AI... WHAT ARE YOU...?

.....

WITH THE LOVE THAT EVOLVES FROM THE LIGHT, WE CAN ALL BE SAVED.

I JUST WANTED-- NEEDED-- SOME LIGHT.

SOME LIGHT TO BRING HOPE AND STRENGTH AND... LOVE.

SOME LIGHT TO LEAD US ALL OUT OF WHATEVER DARK PLACE WE'RE IN.

I GUESS IT ALSO WORKS THE OTHER WAY--

All right, Ai!

We love you, Ai!

--THE LIGHT EVOLVED FROM THE LOVE INSIDE ME...

...AND THE LOVE INSIDE ME CAME FROM ALL OF YOU...

...AND FROM THOSE WHO LISTENED TO MY SONG.

...FROM JEN, FROM KENT, FROM THE PEOPLE AROUND ME...

Ai!

Ai!

Ai!

ドドド

You're whole with me...

There's something here for us to be..

In this lonely world, with our lonely lives...

Nothing can conquer our whole love tonight.

Yeaaahh!

BUT I HAD HER RIGHT IN MY SIGHTS--A PERFECT SHOT.

I... MISSED!

ガクッ

!!!

ガクッ

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON!

ガクッ

ガクッ

HOLD ON FOR A SEC, HAYABUSA.

ガクッ

BOTH TAKESHI AND HIRO HAVE FAILED ME.

...AND AS AN UNDERCOVER DETECTIVE, I HEREBY ARREST YOU FOR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MURDER.

As well as various other crimes, such as tax evasion, assault and battery, extortion, bribing a police officer, parking in a handicapped space, jaywalking, etc. etc. etc. etc. ..

I'VE RECORDED AS MANY INCRIMINATING CONVERSATIONS AS I COULD...

U-UNDER ARREST?! WH-WHAT DID I DO...?

JUST COME WITH ME!

WH--

WHAT --?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FIRED THAT GUN!

I'M TAKING YOU IN!

WELL... YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT THAT RAISE NOW.

I'm whole with you...

gleam

You're whole with me ..

glitter

COULD IT BE...?

rip

THE PENDANT I GAVE KENT--

--IT STOPPED THE ARROW FROM GOING ALL THE WAY IN!

AND...IT'S GLOWING!

drop

IN AI-LAND, ROSES SYMBOLIZE HUMANS AS ANEMONES DO THE DOUGEN.

BUT I, AM NEITHER ONE NOR THE OTHER. I STEM FROM BOTH... AND THAT FUSION IS THE SOURCE OF MY POWER.

A ROSE...

AND AN ANEMONE.

KENT, I BELIEVE YOU STILL HAVE THE SEED OF LIFE INSIDE..

PLEASE...

...LET THE POWER OF OUR LOVE MAKE IT BLOOM.

!

ミシ

ク

twitch

SO... DOES THIS MEAN I MISSED THE ENCORE?

KENT!!

OH, MY--!

Yeaah!

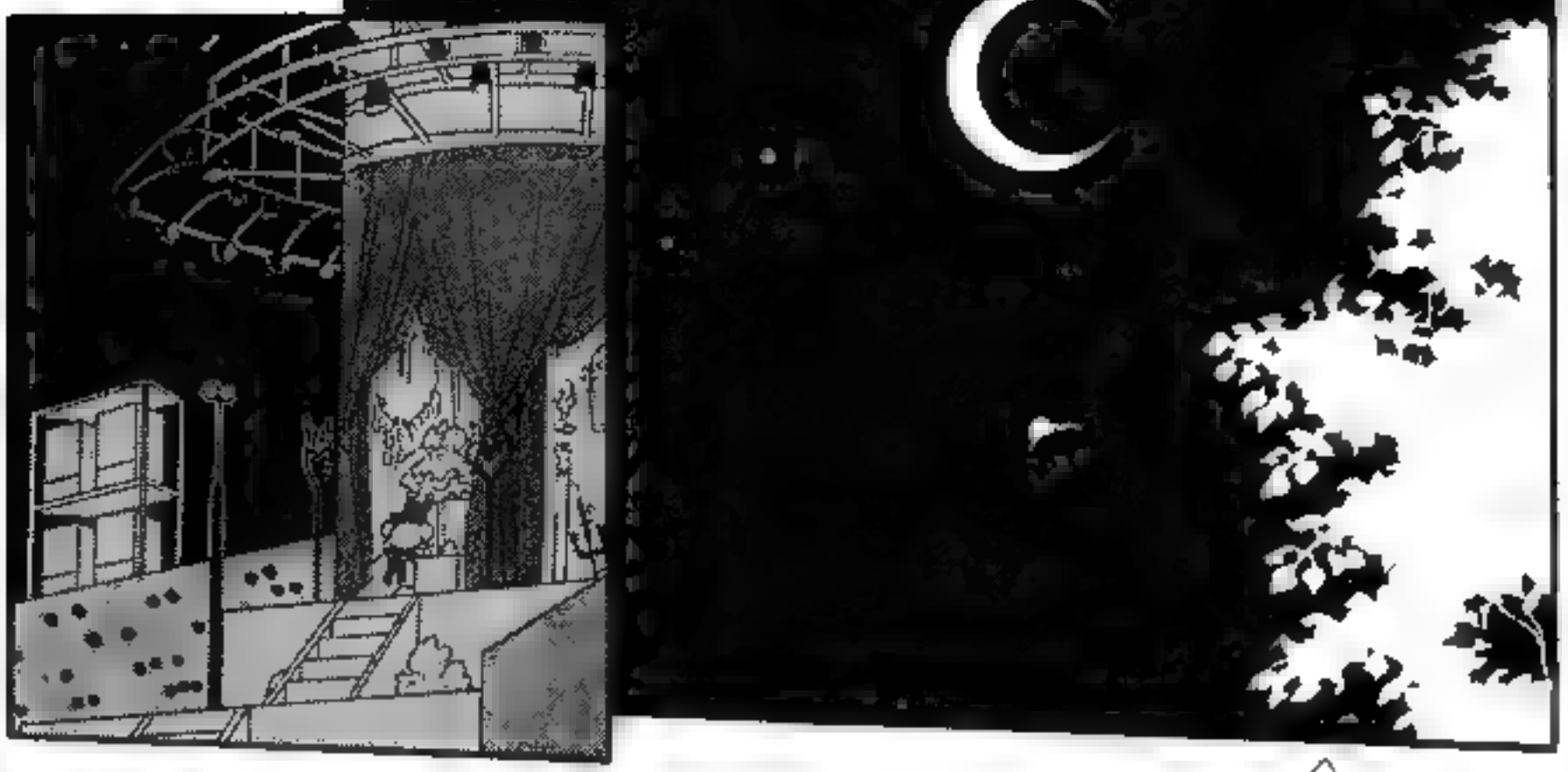
*I bled so much I thought I'd die,*
*Without believing I had one more try...*

*But now my search has ended,*
*Now what's lost is found...*

*If our love is freedom*
*Then with you I'm bound.*

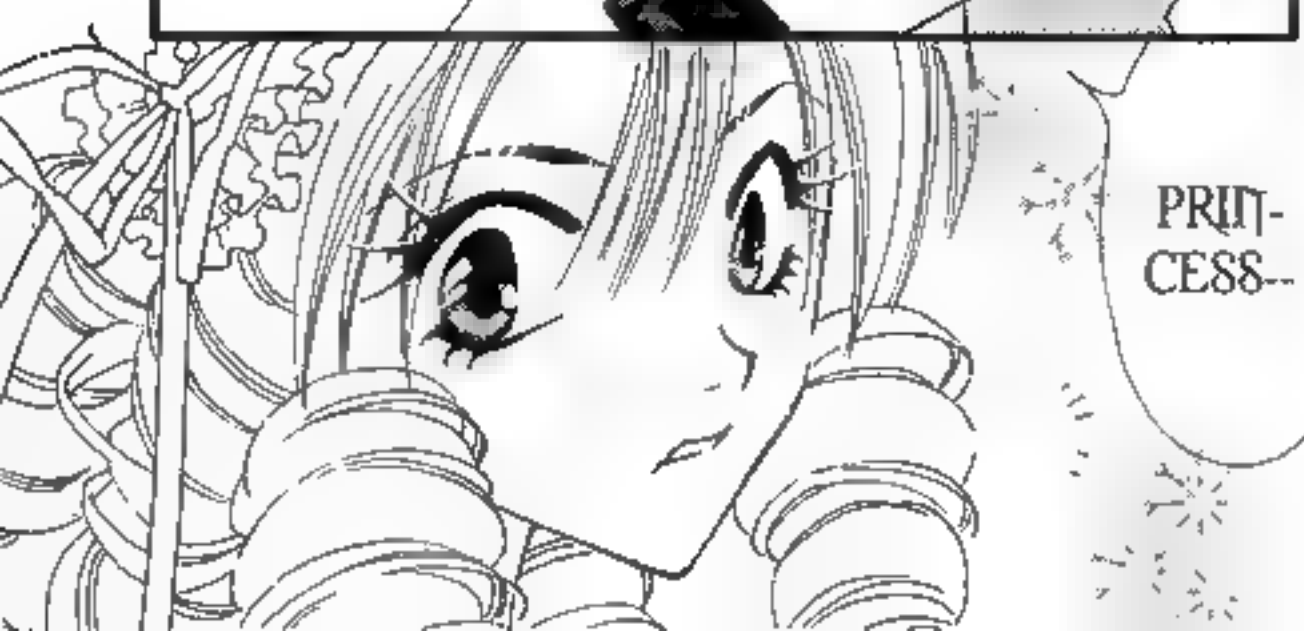
Yeeeah!

*Nothing can conquer our whole love tonight.*



HIKARU.
DARN YOU, DARN YOU, DARN YOU!
PRINCESS, LEAVE THEM BE...

KENT!


PRIN-
CESS--

IT SEEMS TO US

TESS...

LIKE YOU HAVE FOUND THE ANSWERS YOU SOUGHT

SHALL WE

...MAKE OUR JOURNEY HOME?

THE POWER YOU HAVE DISCOVERED WITHIN YOURSELF IS DESPERATELY NEEDED IN AI-LAND

I DON'T THINK I CAN BEAR IT.

YOU CAN'T TAKE OUR PRINCESS!

WE WANT HER TO STAY HERE WITH US.

WE AREN T ABLE TO TRANSPORT YOU EITHER SINCE YOUR FLASH OF LIGHT WE RE UNABLE TO CONTACT AI LAND

TESS, ONE PROBLEM-- I HAVE NO CLUE HOW TO DO IT.

...BUT IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO HOME.

YOSHI, I'M SORRY.

I'D LOVE TO STAY HERE IF I COULD...

Savior?

EXALTED SAVIOR, PRINCESS AI, IT IS A GREAT HONOR TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU.

I RECOGNIZE THEM FROM THE NEWS-- THE SEERS!

WHO ---?

PLEASE FORGIVE US FOR INTERRUPTING ..

IT'S SIMILAR TO THE RED BOOK FA'AN GAVE ME EARLIER-- THE ONE FROM THE LIBRARY.

A BOOK FROM AI-LAND?

SIR EDWIN SEE, OUR WAYWARD EMIR, WROTE THAT YOU WOULD KNOW ITS MEANING.

EXALTED SAVIOR, IT IS OUR DUTY TO DELIVER THIS HOLY TOME TO YOU.

!!

Flash

WOW!

IT'S JUST LIKE A PUZZLE-- PERFECT FIT...

IT'S HOW I FIRST TRANSPORTED HERE, TO THE OTHER-SIDE.

I'VE FELT THIS ENERGY BEFORE!

WE ARE PLEASED TO BE OF HUMBLE SERVICE, EXALTED SAVIOR.

THANK YOU, YOSHI.

PRINCESS, I WISH I COULD SEE YOU OFF WITH A SMILE, BUT IT'S JUST SO HARD ON ME.

THE CLOUDS HAVE ALL CLEARED.

THE SKY IS FULL OF STARS.

YOU WERE ONE OF A KIND, AI.

GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND A NEW DIVA, TAKESHI.

YOU'RE SELFISH, AI.

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR MAKING MY BELOVED KENT MISERABLE.

...!

I WON'T FORGET YOU EITHER, HIKARU.

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF KENT.

Hug

...

LOOK, YOU'VE MADE ME CRY!

GRAB

AI...

UMPH!

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE IN MY HEART, AI.

AND YOU'LL ALWAYS BE IN MY SOUL, MY LOVELY KENT.

EVEN APART, WE'LL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER.

THANKS TO AL

IT SEEMS THINGS HAVE TAKEN A TURN FOR THE BETTER KAZ

NORA!

NORA YOU.. YOU WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG ABOUT HER HOW DID YOU KNOW SHE WAS ONE OF US?

SOME THING SO TRUE AND SO GOOD THAT IT COULD CHANGE THE WORLD

I DIDN'T AND SHE STILL HAS MANY SECRETS YET TO BE REVEALED I JUST KNEW THAT I FELT SOMETHING FROM HER

MY COUSIN EVERY REVO-LUTION HAS ITS TURNING POINT..AND THIS IS OURS.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE SECOND REVOLUTION?

BUT NORA EVEN WHEN PRINCESS AI ARRIVES BACK HERE IN AI-LAND WE MUST STILL OVERCOME KING SEI AND THE HUMANS WHO KEEP OUR BRETHREN ENSLAVED

MY COUSIN--

WHILE NO ONE EXCEPT HER TRUE PARENTS KNOWS THE STORY BEHIND AI'S ORIGIN ONE THING IS CERTAIN THE RESULTING WHOLE GREATLY EXCEEDS THE SUM OF HER TWO PARTS. HER POWER IS BEYOND ANY PURE HUMAN OR PURE DOUGEN. SHE IS THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE TOGETHER-- ONE OF PEACE ONE OF UNITY AND ONE OF HARMONY

IF EITHER SIDE WINS THROUGH VIOLENCE IT WILL ONLY BREED A MORE VIOLENT RETALIATION LATER. AS THE FIRST OF A NEW BREED AI CAN BE PROOF TO HUMAN AND DOUGEN ALIKE-- THAT OUR RACES ARE CAPABLE OF JOINING TOGETHER TO CREATE A LIFE GREATER THAN ANYTHING WE'VE SEEN.

PERFECT
ALIBI THE
NECKLACE
TRAVELLER

# CHAPTER 15

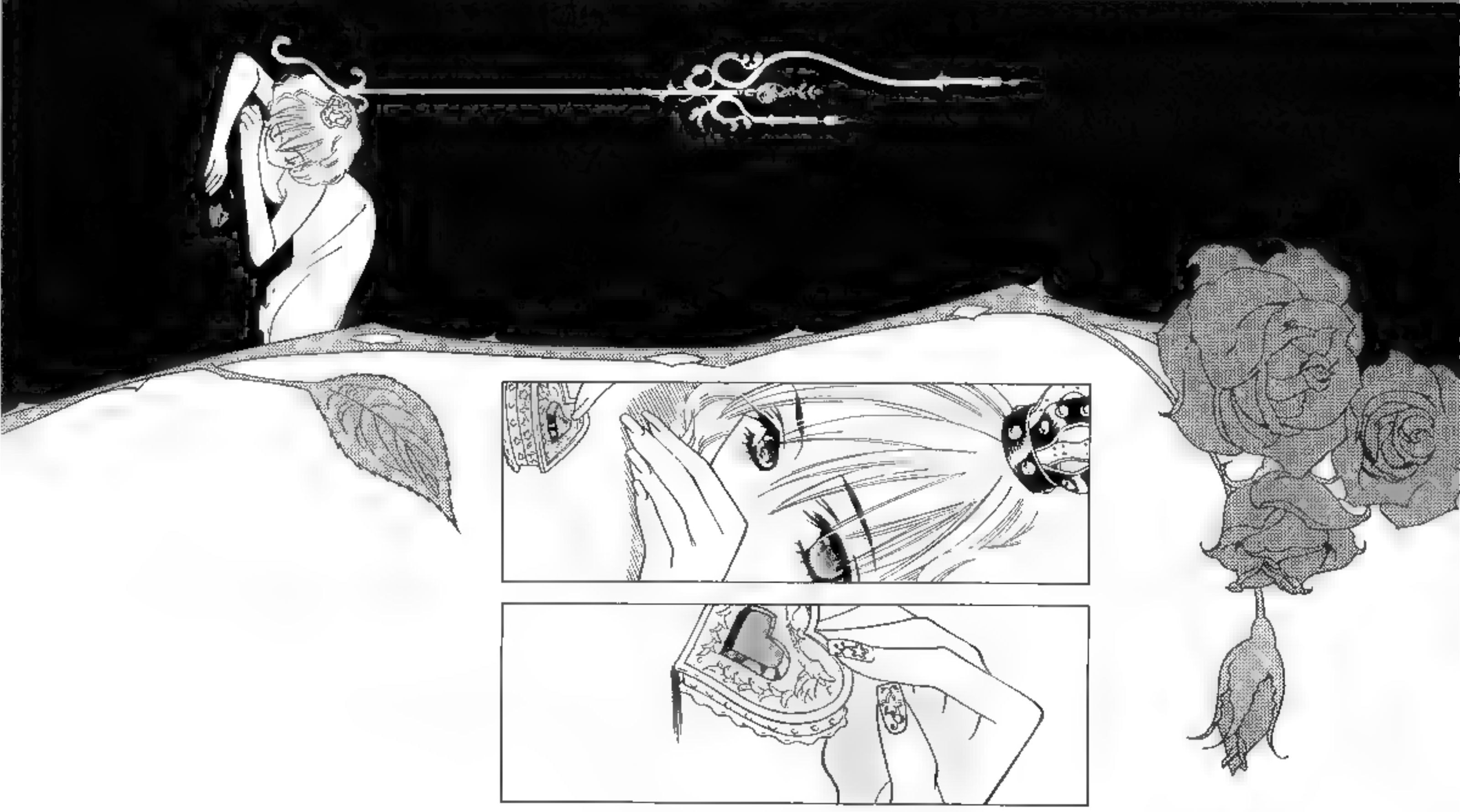
FIN

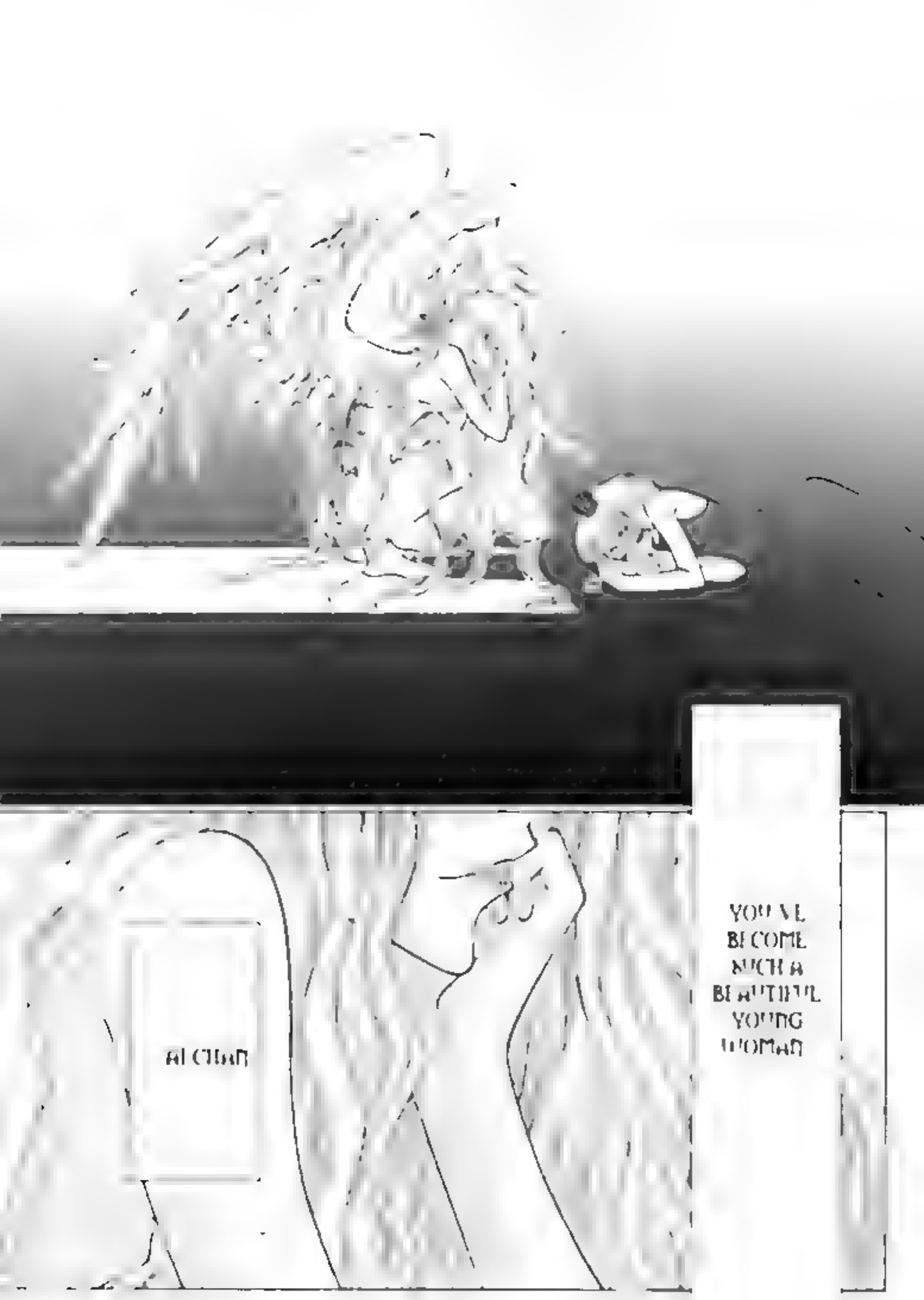
Distant Memories
An Epilogue to the Princess Ai Trilogy

番外篇

# 遠い、記憶にて

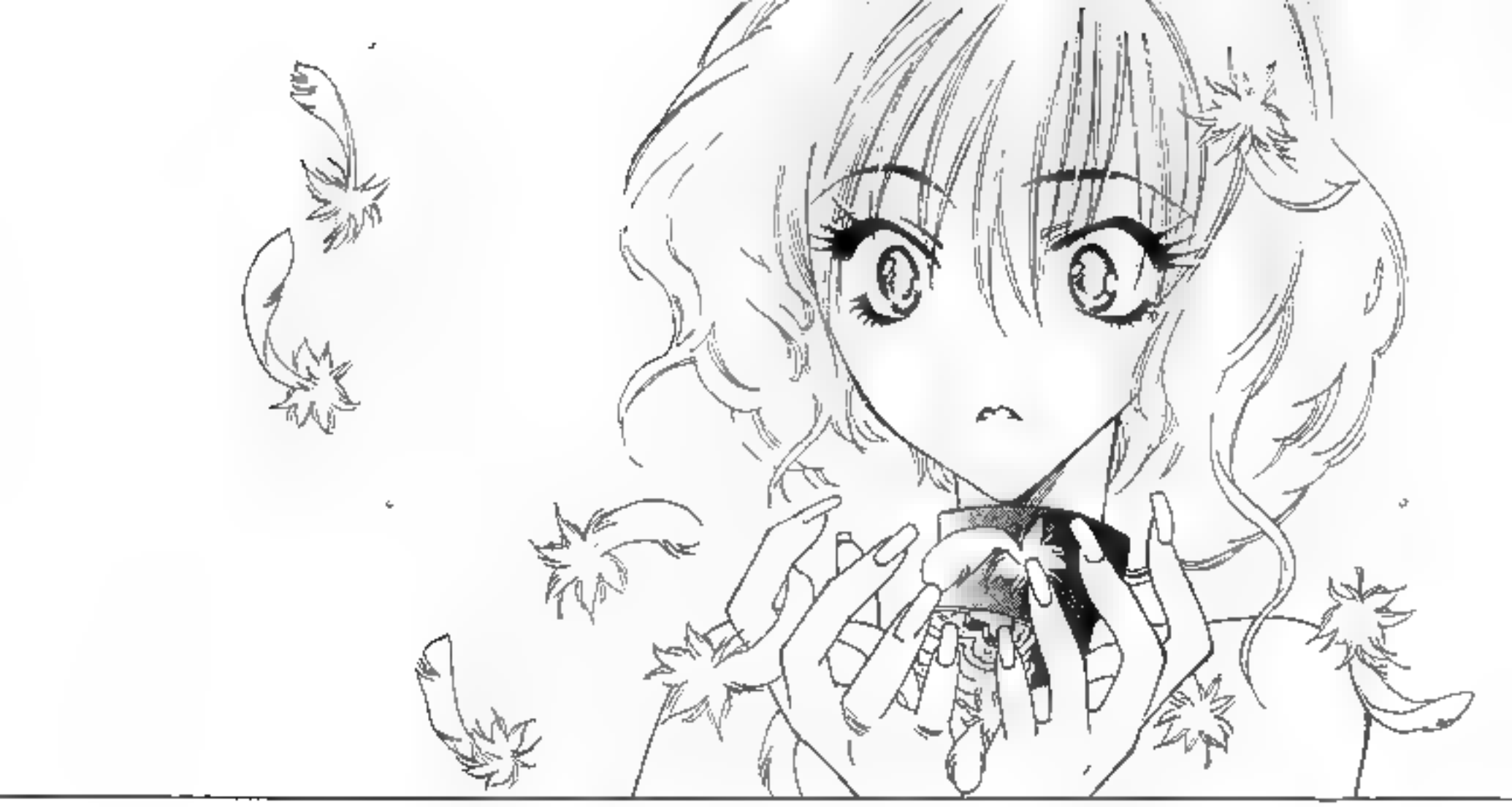
とおいきおくにて

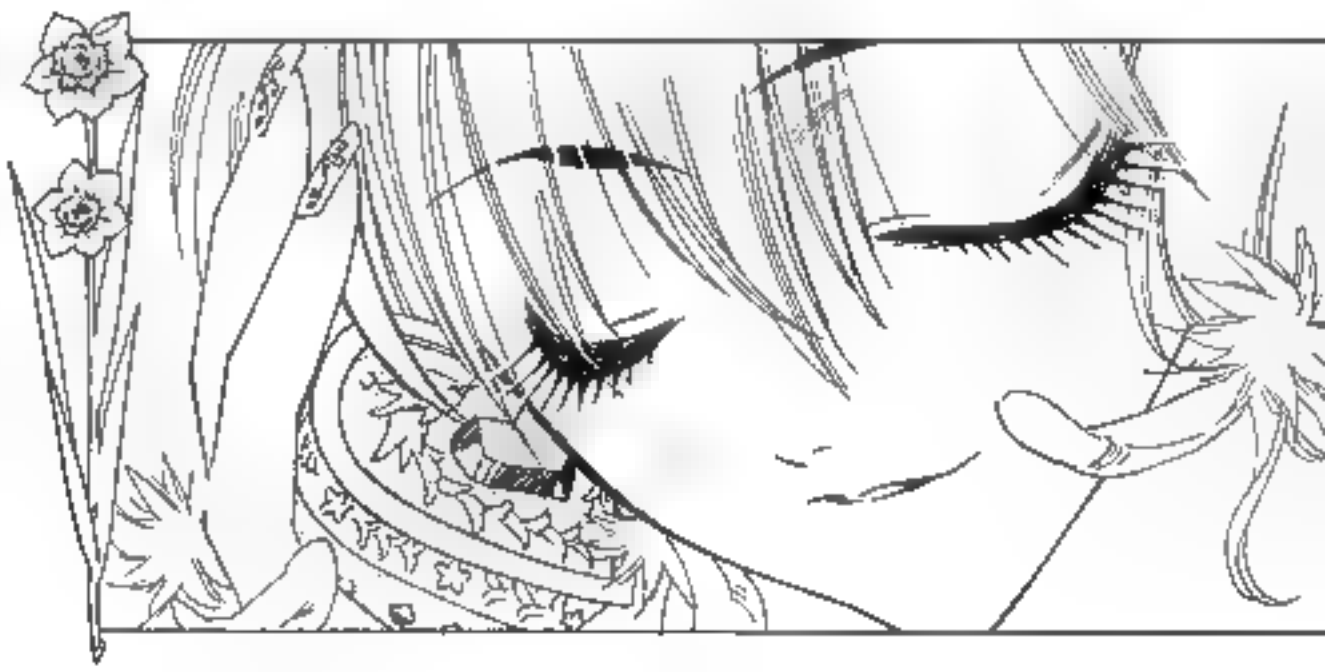



YOU'VE BECOME SUCH A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN
AI CHAN

I'M SO SORRY--

--I TRULY DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU





AI, YOU READY?

1

SURE!

*THAT DREAM-- IT FELT SO WARM INSIDE...*

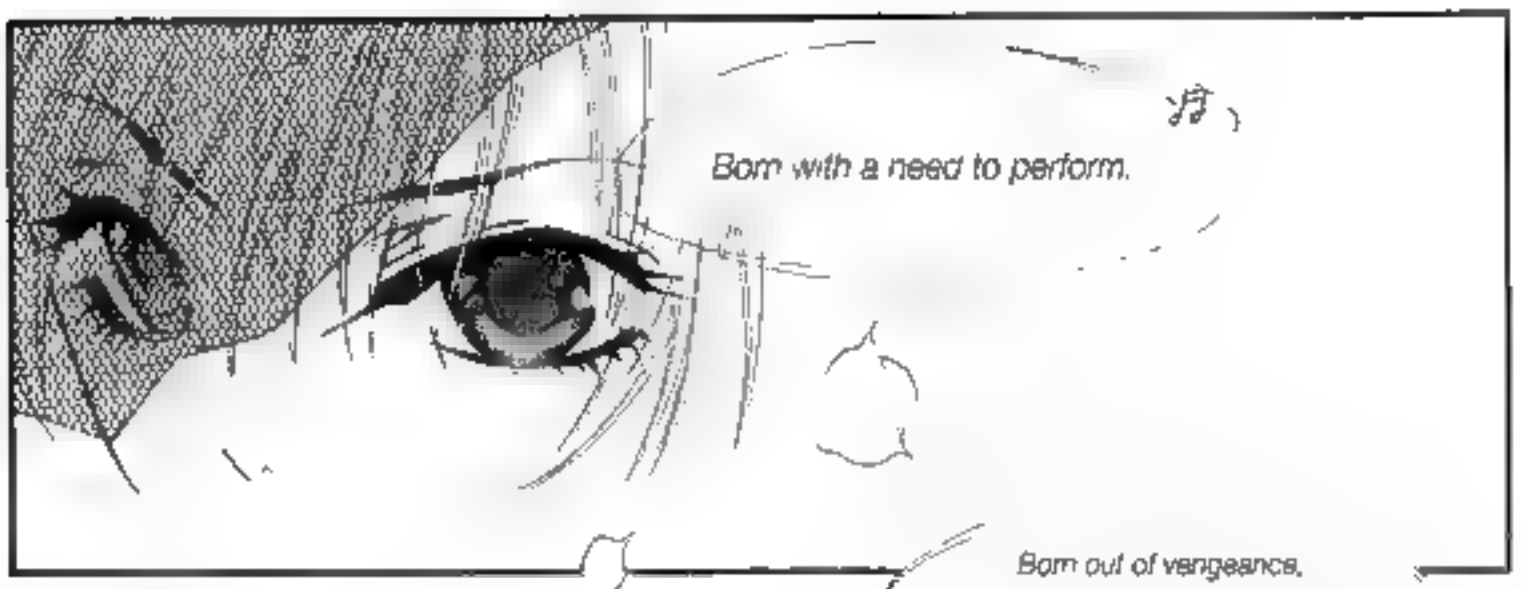
LET'S GO, KENT...

END

# Fin

# Princess Ai

This volume featured three original *Princess Ai* songs
For your enjoyment we've included the full lyrics.
For more information about these songs and
D.J. Micky check out www.djmicky.com!



# Daughter of Death (Chapter 13)

I was.
Born to the blood of angels
Born through the veil of a storm
Born without love inside me
Born with a need to perform
Born out of vengeance
Born out of scorn
Born out of hatred
Out of love torn
Born with a mission
Born with a drive
Born with a need
With a will to survive

Now it's time to show you
what I'm really all about
No more pretensions,
no more frothing at the mouth
There's no use hiding
all my sins deep inside
I'll wear them on my shoulder
like a badge of pride

CHORUS
Cuz I'm a Daughter of Death
From my very first breath
I'm a Daughter of Death
Blood red as Macbeth
I'm a Daughter of Death
Living a filthy mess
I'm a Daughter of Death
Just a Daughter of Death

I was
Raised from burning ashes
Raised with tragic crime
Raised from cries of chaos
Raised on borrowed time
Raised by the darkness
Raised by the night
Raised by the vultures
By the claws of fright
Raised to be hated
Raised to be loved
Raised to be doomed
By the powers above

Now it's time to show you
what I'm really all about
No more pretensions,
no more frothing at the mouth
There's no use hiding
all my sins deep inside
I'll wear them on my shoulder
like a badge of pride

CHORUS
Cuz I'm a Daughter of Death
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I'm a Daughter of Death
Living a filthy mess
I'm a Daughter of Death
Just a Daughter of Death

"Daughter of Death" written by D.J. Milky published by and ©TOKYOPOP (BMI).
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I m just looking for where.
..I can point this thing
And blast away blast away blast away!!

# Look Out for Love (When It Wants Revenge) (Chapter 14)

They say life ain't fair
Don't let me go there
I'm not looking for fair
I'm just looking for where
I can point this thing
And blast away blast away
blast away

They say love don't last
That it moves too fast
I see it broken like glass
So I can't get past
Wanting to raise my fist
And smash away smash away
smash away

You're gonna feel this
You won't forget it
No way to heal this
So you'll regret it

Look out for Love
(when it wants revenge)
Look out for my heart
(it'll never mend)
Look out for Fate
(when it screams the end)
Look out for Love
(when it wants revenge)

They say too bad
Both happy and sad
But all the pain I had
Just makes me so mad
I want to pull out my hair
And thrash away thrash away
thrash away

You're gonna feel this
You won't forget it
No way to heal this
So you'll regret it

Look out for Love
(when it wants revenge)
Look out for my heart
(it'll never mend)
Look out for Fate
(when it screams the end)
Look out for Love
(when it wants revenge)

They say life's short
Reach out for support
Ya think I'm that sort?
If it's my last resort
I open up wide
And scream away scream away
scream away

"Look Out for Love (When It Wants Revenge)" written by D.J. Mikey, published by and © TOKYOPOP (BMI).
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You re whole with me
There s something
here for us to be
In this lonely world
with our lonely lives
Nothing can conquer
our whole love tonight

# Whole (Chapter 15)

I'm whole with you
You're whole with me
There's something here
For us to be
In this lonely world
With our lonely lives
Nothing can conquer
Our whole love tonight.

I felt the pain and let it wallow
I felt the hate so strong yet shallow
No matter where you went
No matter where you'll be
I've got you deep inside
Warm inside me

I bled so much I thought I'd die
Without believing I had one more try
But now my search has ended
Now what's lost is found
If our love is freedom
Then with you I'm bound

I'm whole with you
You're whole with me
There's something here
For us to be
In this lonely world
With our lonely lives
Nothing can conquer
Our whole love tonight.

I cried so hard I had no more tears
So afraid I couldn't face my fears
But when I looked aside
I saw it in your eyes
No more hiding truth
To save our lies

I prayed to be taken far away
Instead of staying I ran astray
Once my legs gave out
My heart gave in
Apart we may lose
But whole we win

I'm whole with you
You're whole with me
There's something here
For us to be
In this lonely world
With our lonely lives
Nothing can conquer
Our whole love tonight.

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## ■ PostsCript ■

- Hello! This is Misaho Kujiradou.
  You have just read the final volume of *Princess Ai*. I started the series as a total beginner to serialized manga and I'd like to thank all of those who helped me through it.

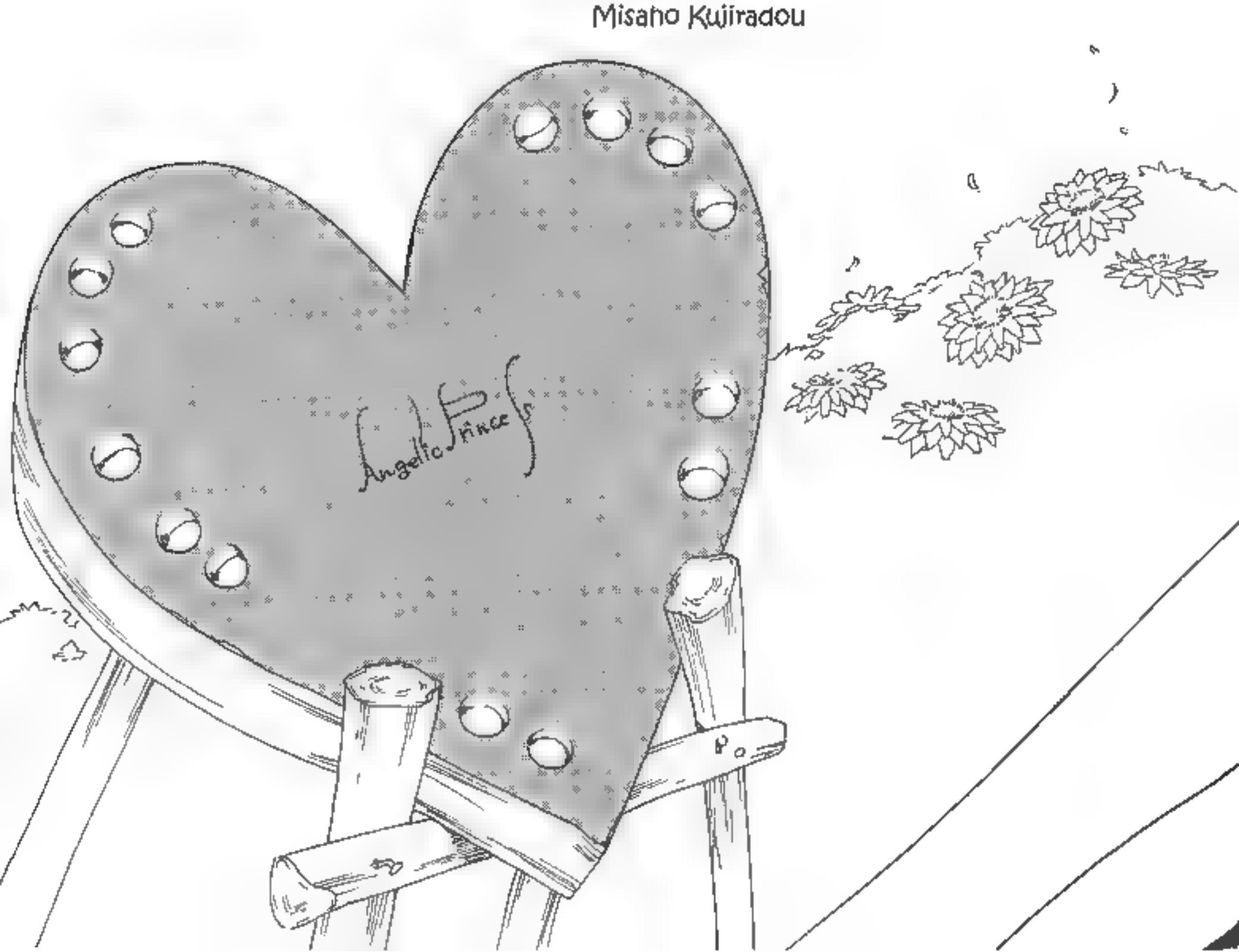
- This is the end of this Princess Ai series, but I hear the franchise will continue in other forms, so look forward to that!

- For me, this was a very fun job. I was able to draw a lot of the gothic-lolita style that I love and it was so much fun thinking up costumes for Ai-chan! I wish I could keep doing it.

- The color fold-out page was made so that you can put different outfits on Ai yourself. Please cut them out and have fun with it if you wish. You could even create your own outfits!

- Finally, thank you so much for reading this manga until the very end.

Misaho Kujiradou



# Afterword

DECEMBER 2005

TO ALL READERS OF PRINCESS AI:

If there's one word to describe all my feelings toward this PRINCESS AI PROJECT, it's "WOW!" Sometimes, creating a story is merely a job while at other times it can change one's inner self. There's something about PRINCESS AI that makes this project one of the latter. For me, I think it's because AI-chan herself has taken on a life of her own. I don't know if you feel the same way, but I can't imagine a world without AI-chan. She doesn't seem like a fictional character — she's more like someone I knew well. I guess that's the power of inspiration — from the power of Courtney's persona, to the incredible beauty of Yazawa A.'s character design, to the ingenuity of Kujirada-san's artistic touch.

With AI evolving into her true self, finally feeling comfortable with her responsibility on the one hand and her childlike silliness on the other, it's natural for her to return to AI-land, her home. But at the same time, I'm torn about Jen, Ishtar, Kent, Takeshi, Yoshi -- even Hayabusa and Hiro. I don't want to just leave them to go back to their old lives. It's kind of hard to imagine someone so important coming into your life — hijacking it, in a way — only to leave you stranded at the end. Not that AI does this on purpose, of course; it's just the way it has to be. So in a way, this really is the end of a chapter that we may never see again. I can't say there aren't fun stories that we haven't fully explored here — and maybe one of you will honor us by creating fan fiction to explore those stories and take over where we left off.

Though this is the final volume of the trilogy and the end of this fresh, innocent era of Ai chan finding herself on the Other Side, it is not the end of the saga. The stories that you will discover in upcoming formats – Novels as well as film – will explore Ai-Lando They will even move on beyond Ai herself – Nora will take a major role, as his leadership and conviction is core to the future of Ai-Lando

Thanks so much for joining us on this journey – to everyone who has imagined, created, and dreamt together with us, may you find the whole love within you.

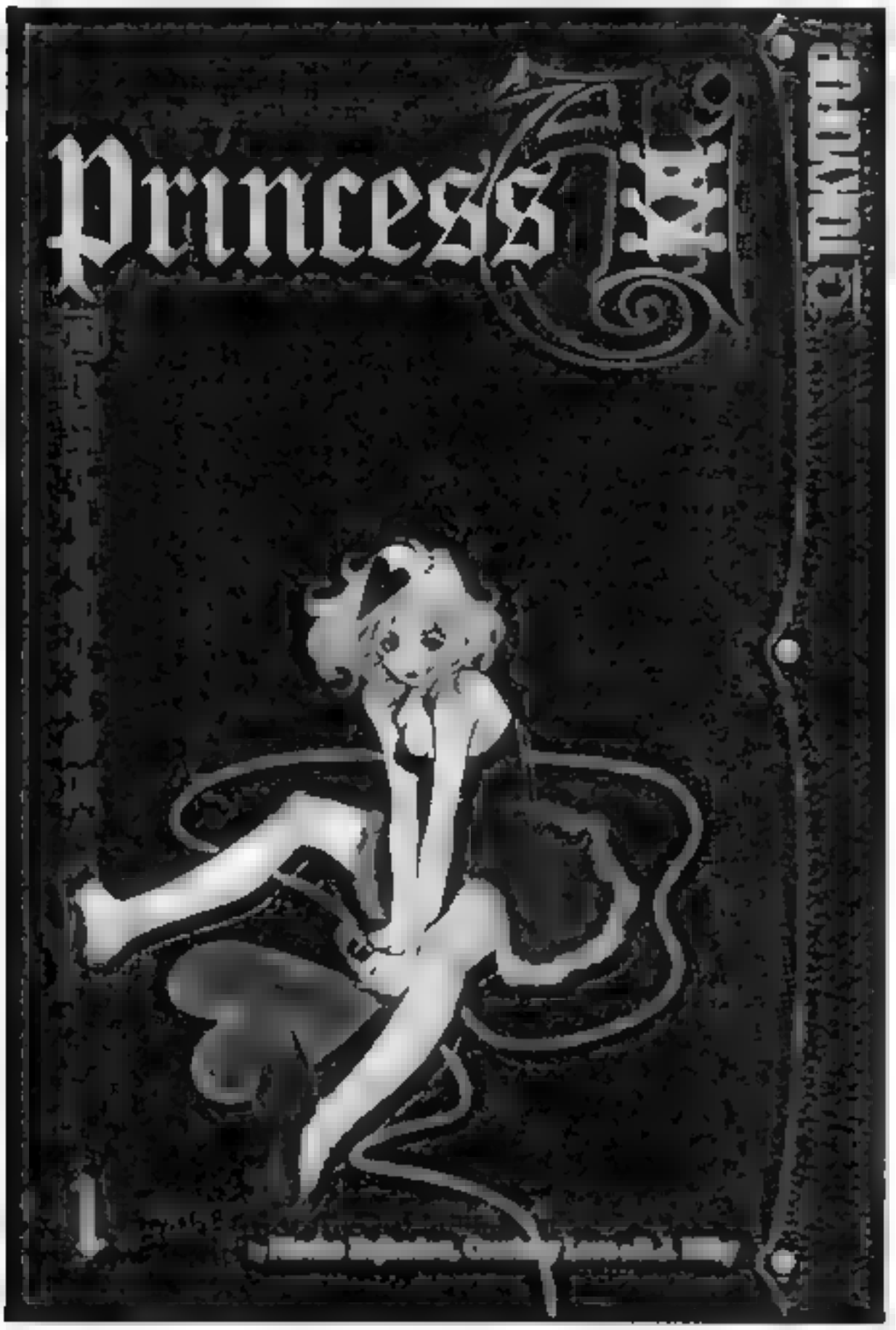
大石まさゆき
ジェイソン・ティ

12 9 05

# Princess Ai

## COVER GALLERY

IF YOU DON'T HAVE EVERY VOLUME OF *PRINCESS AI*,
YOU DON'T HAVE THE WHOLE STORY!




### VOLUME 1: DESTITUTION

Begin an amazing journey with a mysterious young woman who is searching for identity and salvation in this world and beyond. Ai finds herself lost, alone and penniless on the cold, hard streets of Tokyo. With flickers of memory, she must piece together clues about who she is, how she ended up on Earth and the secret of the ornate heart-shaped box she carries with her. Sparks fly when Kent, a complicated young college student, offers his help, and possibly more. But time is running out, as the clashing forces of love and chaos close in around her.

## VOLUME 2· LUMINATION

Ai's rock-n-roll star is on the rise – but this winged Princess from another world is about to learn that there is always a price to pay for fame. Torn between her love for Kent and her concern for his safety, Ai must struggle against assassins from her homeland, conspirators from her record company, protestors on the streets and her own conflicted emotions as she continues her search for the cure to Ai-Land's many woes.

*Princess Ai Volume 3: Evolution* is the final volume of Princess Ai's story on Earth However, as D.J. Milky pointed out in his afterword, this is definitely not the end of Princess Ai  Aside from the manga, we're looking into novels, artbooks and even films to bring you more stories featuring Ai and her fascinating homeland  If you'd like more Ai in your life while you're waiting for these new projects to appear, check out some of the fantastic items on our

# SHOPPING LIST

**Hot Topic has lots of great Princess Ai gear. Drop by a Hot Topic store or go to www.hottopic.com and type "princess ai" in the search bar.**

Hot Topic Exclusive Junior Short Sleeve Tees are available in the following styles:

- ☐ White with black-and-white Princess Ai art
- ☐ White with puffy sleeves and a full-color Princess Ai over black-and-white manga art.
- ☐ Pink with puffy sleeves and Princess Ai close-up.
- ☐ Black with Princess Ai close-up with sparkly lips. Back has flowers on right shoulder area
- ☐ Eggplant with images of Kent in the background and a seated Princess Ai in the foreground. Princess Ai across top of back.
- ☐ Black with seated Princess Ai inside a frame of stars.

Other Hot Topic exclusives:

- ☐ **Stickers:** Individual stickers in two styles: (1) Ai standing in a black/purple dress, (2) Ai seated in a purple/pink dress
- ☐ **Cami/Panty Set:** Black with pink lace-up trim detail on the back of both pieces.
- ☐ **Perfume:** Sweet, floral scent packaged in clear pink bottle labeled "Love"
- ☐ **Patches:** Two embroidered styles. (1) Black heart with silver trim and silver logo with winged heart dagger, (2) round patch with a close-up of Ai
- ☐ **Pins:** Two styles (1) Black with seated Ai, (2) pink with Ai framed in flowers and butterflies
- ☐ **Dolls:** Princess Ai 7" figures and 12" collectible dolls Many different looks for Ai's many different moods!

**Limited edition collectibles available through www.TOKYOPOP.com**

- ☐ **Journal:** Designed to look like the red Ai-Land book that was featured in the manga, its cover is treated to look like leather and it features Ai's royal family crest in gold. 95 pages, some lined for writing, some open for sketches

- ☐ **Notecard Set:** Each set contains six square cards including four different pieces of art featuring Princess Ai Also includes six purple envelopes The card interiors are blank.

- ☐ **Clear File:** This translucent clear file features lovely full-color Princess Ai art on the front and back and fits up to 40 pieces of paper

- ☐ **T-shirt:** Black short sleeve tee with purple outline of Ai. Even includes wings on the back! (Small size only.)

**Bleeding Edge has a fantastic array of Princess Ai dolls available in stores or through www.begoths.com. They're like the book in 3-D!**

# Princess Ai COSPLAY

There are times in your life when your first guess is absolutely correct. One of those moments for me was when, as the host for the 2005 Princess Ai Cosplay Contest at the San Diego Comic-Con, I first saw Carly B. in the line-up

She looked absolutely amazing in her custom-made dress and statuesque in her 7" heels. I was so enamored with her costume and all the intricate details that I wanted to ask her to make me a copy of it on the spot (minus the shoes, of course--I would get nosebleeds in those heels )

I knew she was the chosen one, but it would take one hour and four judges deliberating over 20 contestants before my guess turned into reality. But how could she not win? Supremely talented in the art of sewing, Carly created the dress and headpiece with her own hands after being inspired by TOKYOPOP's very own Princess Ai

The grand prize package (a $500 value) couldn t have gone to a more deserving winner Thank you Carly and all the contestants for showing your love for Princess Ai in such ingenious ways!

--Candice, Princess Ai Brand Manager

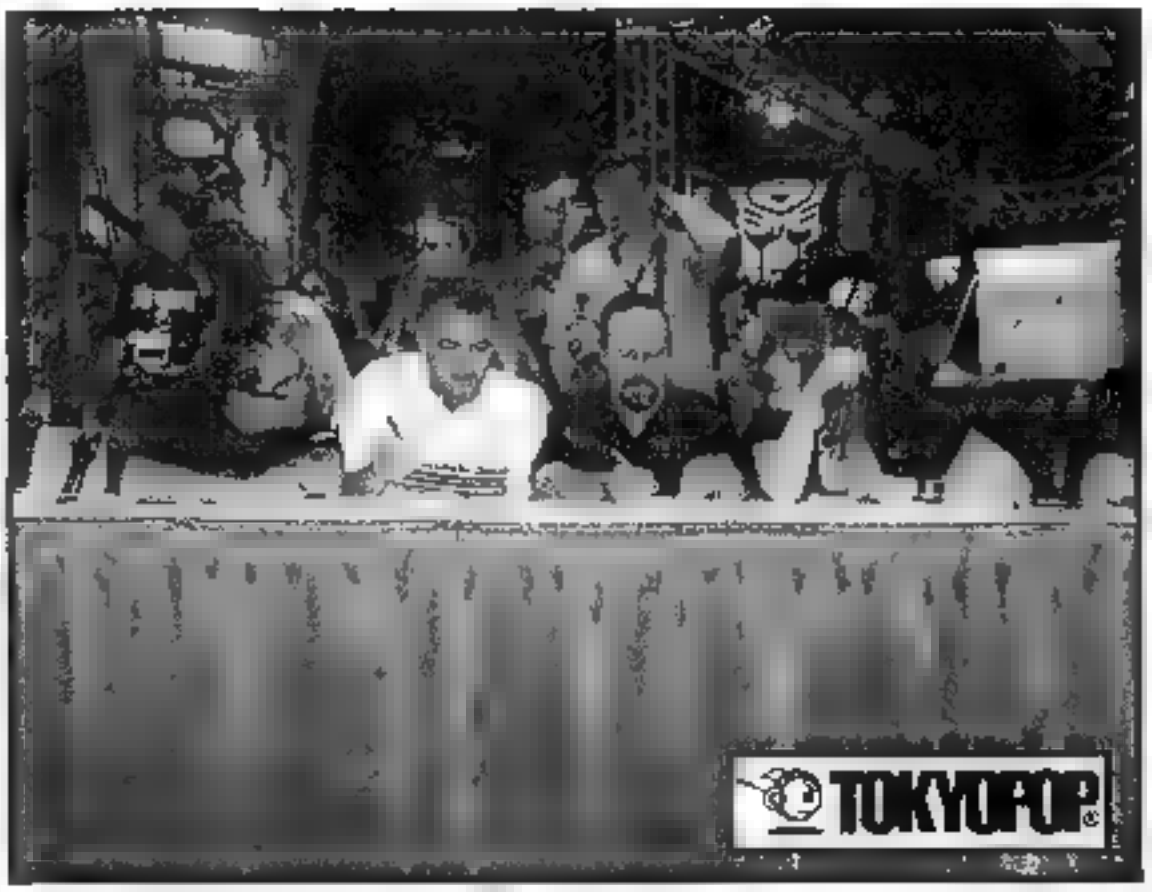
Note Special thanks to Amii Hodgkins, whose incredible hard work made the Princess Ai cosplay contest a reality

A huge crowd gathered around the TOKYOPOP booth to check out the wide variety of looks. On one end of the fashion spectrum, Contestant 11 (Jennifer A., farthest left) dressed to the nines in Ai's hot pink, black and silver royal finery. On the other end, Contestant 9 (Sara H , farthest right) dressed down as sleepy A. from volume 1, chapter 4

Contestant 18 (Sarah E ) really nailed Princess Ai s colors and her poses She even carried a heart shaped box! Contestant 19 went for a schoo girl look with Ai s stunning striped stockings Contestant 20 Stephanie M sported a guitar angel wings and a heart shaped rip on her hip

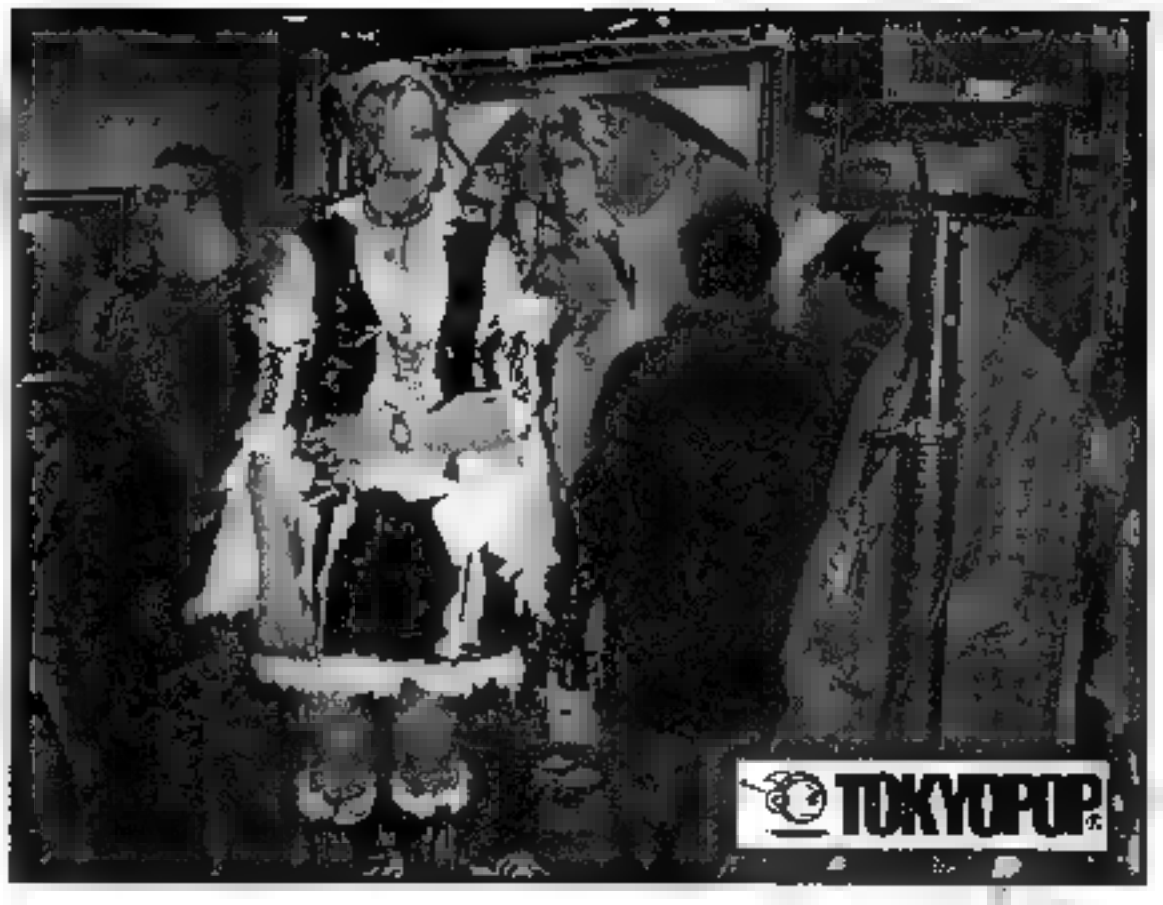
With death-defying heels, Carly stands head and shoulders above the crowd

Our final 5 finalists strike a pose! If cosplays are best when the contestants are having fun, then this one was absolutely fabulous!

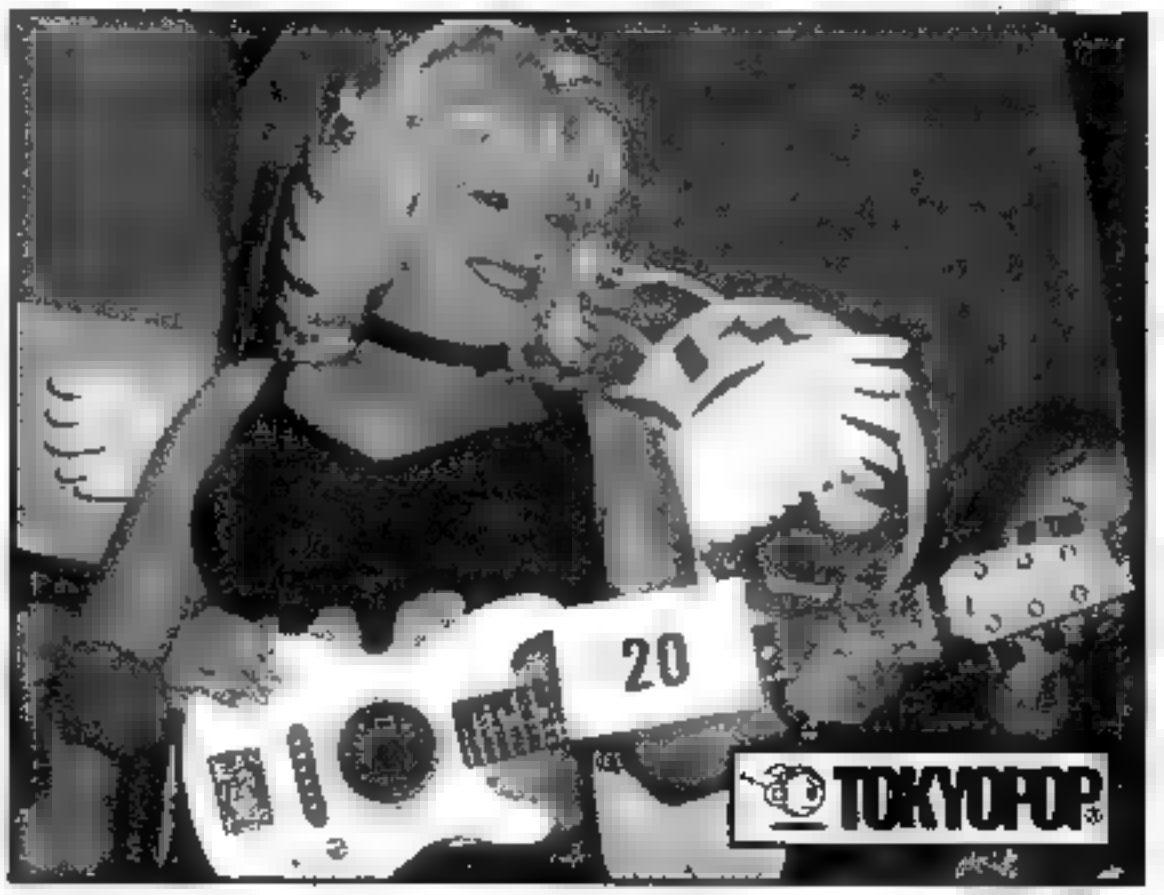



The judges deliberate! (L to R: Stuart Levy (TOKYOPOP C E O), Rob Tokar (Editor), Steve Varner (Bleeding Edge), Shauntel Jarreau (Hot Topic)

Carly B., our Grand Prize Winner!




A rose among the thorns




Stephanie M. (Contestant 20) was a hot first runner up.

Sarah E. (Contestant 18) was an alluring second runner up.

Honorable Mention:
While we had many contestants with fantastic costumes, we just **had** to show you the dress of this lovely, unnamed, young woman who was unable to travel to San Diego, California to compete. Instead, she came to visit us at our booth at the 2005 Otakon Convention in Baltimore, Maryland. Her outfit is completely MADE OUT OF TAPE!

All the way from Italy, courtesy of Paulo Gattone, Gaia R. demonstrates her cosplay capabilities with Ai's outfit from volume 1, chapter 1. Clearly, Gaia has a fine eye for detail to go along with her costuming skills. You can also see this look on Bleeding Edge's Princess Ai "Fell to Earth" doll!

# COURTNEY LOVE, D.J. MILKY & MISAHO KUJIRADOU

While Courtney Love is best known as the controversial front-woman for the alternative rock band Hole, an accomplished actress and for her marriage to Kurt Cobain, it is a little known fact that—before her meteoric rise to fame—she lived and performed in Japan and became a huge manga fan. Her interest in Japanese comics led her to TOKYOPOP, where she collaborated with D.J. Milky to create her fantasy alter ego, Princess Ai.

D.J. Milky likes to eat ramen late at night and bananas for breakfast. Addicted to digital and analog fusion, Milky is in a constant state of flux and irk. Life's one reward comes in the form of making stories, music, and lately shooting DV. Milky has composed a few songs for TOKYOPOP including "School's in Session" (*GTO*), "Initialize" (*Initial D*), and "Worthy of Your Soul" (*Reign*), as well as writing *Juror 13*, *Karma Club* and two *Stray Sheep* books. Milky is currently in development on two manga projects as well as staring intently into the vortex.

Misaho Kujiradou's favorite foods are: natto (fermented soybeans), crab, miso ramen, and her least favorite foods are red beans, cherry lobster, and cold noodles. Her desk motto: If I do it, things will work out. So I do it. Her personality: Do things at my own pace. Stubborn. Timid. High-tech but I hate the phone (laugh). Her current obsessions: 1. Dolls, especially "Super Dolphy" 2. Flower Patterns, especially roses and gorgeous double-blossom floral patterns 3. The color pink. Her other works include *Time Trouble* in Oct. 1997. Her 40-page manga story, *You Are My God of Fame* (a slapstick love comedy) was enough of a hit that she received her first fan-letter for it!

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# Princess Ai™

The culmination of Ai's journey of self-discovery is at hand, and salvation is on the horizon. As hunters from her homeland close in on her, Ai's record company unleashes its plan to turn their hot new diva into a falling star. Even with Kent by her side, can Ai avoid her enemies and still find a way to bring peace to her troubled homeland?

The adventure and romance come to a shocking conclusion in *Princess Ai: Evolution*, the final volume in the bestselling manga series!

ISBN 1591826713

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